

House District \_\_\_\_\_

Senate District \_\_\_\_\_

**THE TWENTY- FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE  
APPLICATION FOR GRANTS & SUBSIDIES  
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

Log No: 214 - C

For Legislature's Use Only

Type of Grant or Subsidy Request:

GRANT REQUEST - OPERATING

GRANT REQUEST - CAPITAL

SUBSIDY REQUEST

"Grant" means an award of state funds by the legislature, by an appropriation to a specified recipient, to support the activities of the recipient and permit the community to benefit from those activities.

"Subsidy" means an award of state funds by the legislature, by an appropriation to a recipient specified in the appropriation, to reduce the costs incurred by the organization or individual in providing a service available to some or all members of the public.

"Recipient" means any organization or person receiving a grant or subsidy.

STATE DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY RELATED TO THIS REQUEST (LEAVE BLANK IF UNKNOWN):  
PUNA KAMALI'I FLOWERS, INC. - WAIVER SERVICE PROVIDER FOR HAWAII STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
STATE PROGRAM I.D. NO. (LEAVE BLANK IF UNKNOWN): 523626

**1. APPLICANT INFORMATION:**

Legal Name of Requesting Organization or Individual:

Dbas: PUNA.KAMALI'I FLOWERS, INC.

Street Address: 16-211 KALARA STREET

Mailing Address: SAME AS ABOVE

**2. CONTACT PERSON FOR MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION:**

Name VICKI L. NELSON

Title VICE PRESIDENT

Phone # 808-982-8322

Fax # 808-982-8544

e-mail Vicki@punakamaliiflowers.com

**3. TYPE OF BUSINESS ENTITY:**

- NON PROFIT CORPORATION
- FOR PROFIT CORPORATION
- LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
- SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP/INDIVIDUAL

4. FEDERAL TAX ID # [REDACTED]

5. STATE TAX ID # [REDACTED]

6. SSN (IF AN INDIVIDUAL): [REDACTED]

**7. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S REQUEST:**

Obtain financial aid to substantially increase our ability to create/ seek/ secure more gainful employment positions and/or job opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities.

**8. FISCAL YEARS AND AMOUNT OF STATE FUNDS REQUESTED:**

FY 2008-2009 \$ 600,000.00

**9. STATUS OF SERVICE DESCRIBED IN THIS REQUEST:**

- NEW SERVICE (PRESENTLY DOES NOT EXIST)
- EXISTING SERVICE (PRESENTLY IN OPERATION)

SPECIFY THE AMOUNT BY SOURCES OF FUNDS AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF THIS REQUEST:

STATE \$ 0

FEDERAL \$ 0

COUNTY \$ 0

PRIVATE/OTHER \$ 0

TYPE NAME & TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:

[REDACTED SIGNATURE]

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

VICKI L. NELSON, VICE PRESIDENT

NAME & TITLE

1/31/08

DATE SIGNED

## Application for Grants and Subsidies

*If any item is not applicable to the request, the applicant should enter "not applicable".*

### I. Background and Summary

This section shall clearly and concisely summarize and highlight the contents of the request in such a way as to provide the State Legislature with a broad understanding of the request. Include the following:

1. **A BRIEF description of the applicant's background;**

**PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS, INC.**, <http://www.punakamaliiflowers.com>, is a Hawaii State Employer and Training site for individuals with developmental disabilities, providing on going job opportunities along with habilitation supported employment on location and in the community per job placement.

PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS, INC. Awards:

2006 WINNER - U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

"Big Island, MINORITY CHAMPIONS OF THE YEAR AWARD"

2004 WINNER - AKEPA AWARD-For our environmental and recycling efforts, diverting over 80 tons of newsprint off the Big Island annually.

PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS, INC. is a for profit corporation created and designed with specific goals to provide employment training and gainful wage employment opportunities in agriculture and other work opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities. We are a privately owned, family business born out of the need to provide work for our own son who has developmental disabilities; PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS, INC., has been providing jobs for individuals with developmental disabilities since 1998 on the Big Island of Hawaii.

We are a SBA Hubzone Certified Eligible Contractor, DOL Certified WIA Training Site, School-to-Work Readiness Training Site, Hawaii State Medicaid Waiver Provider, and Social Security Ticket to Work Employment Network.

**2. The goals and objectives related to the request;**

Goal 1: Build (1) 100 x 100 metal warehouse/ packing facility, Build (1) – orchid 100 x 100 floral greenhouse, Build (1) floral shade cloth greenhouse, obtain plant materials and supplies to increase job opportunities in tropical agriculture on the Big Island of Hawaii in 6 months.

Objective 1: Increase PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS, INC. training site facilities and nursery size substantially to train and employ 100 individuals with developmental disabilities in tropical agriculture which industry substantially needs quality, trained employees in one year.

Objective 2: Increase floral production to increase job opportunities, education opportunities and revenue for future growth in one year.

Objective 3: Train and employ staff and individuals with developmental disabilities to further develop job skills which will enable this population of workers in reaching for their highest potential, empowering them, employing them, and, therefore, increasing their independence and self worth.

Objective 4: Train/hire total of 100 persons with DD/MR by 12 months, laying a solid foundation to continue placing individuals with developmental disabilities in employment.

A. Train/hire 33 persons with DD/MR by 6 months, plus hire support staff.

B. Train/hire 33 more persons with DD/MR by 9 months plus hire support staff.

C. Train/hire 34 more persons with DD/MR by 12 months, plus hire support staff.

Objective 5: Create a solid core of individuals, employers, and others trained to develop/continue employment opportunities for this special population further than one year.

Objective 6: To increase knowledge, outreach and provide much needed training/ employment opportunities to hundreds of individuals with developmental disabilities; and

Objective 7: To educate employer, employee, caregiver, parents, and others enabling employment opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities, and

Objective 8: To assist in employment transitioning for individuals with DD/MR who may be unemployed, sitting in adult day health programs with viable unknown, untrained, job skills for employment through computer training programs, hands on production, and direct support worker assistance (Supported Employment).

**3. State the public purpose and need to be served;**

PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS, INC. has recognized since 1998 the serious, immediate need to increase employment opportunities, job awareness, and employer training to develop on going stable employment for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Public purpose: PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS, INC. desires to increase employment opportunities by increasing PKF, Inc. facilities and plant production opportunities, seeking the public, community, and private sector for trainable direct support workers and individuals with disabilities for employment utilizing this grant funding.

Need to be served: PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS, INC. recognizes that by training and employing individuals with developmental disabilities, positive economic changes will occur as individuals who are presently allotted financial assistance through programs would now be able to give back to their communities and programs through active employment and the financial process. Individuals with developmental disabilities could step away from the norm of persons sitting in adult day care to persons who would pay their own taxes, buy their own products and increase economic stability locally and throughout the world.

**4. Describe the target population to be served;**

Target population to be served: PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS, INC. serves the unemployed, untapped, and neglected workforce of individuals with developmental disabilities since 1998 and desires to continue to carry out our work further. This population is still generally untapped/ uneducated in their immediate or future employment potentials. It is our desire to use this grant to

enable us to carry out our goals further with more expanding and impacting results for the benefit of all mentally challenged individuals in Hawaii desiring work, especially those on the Big Island.

The impact of an educated community which embraces our individuals with developmental disabilities into the same like world is immeasurable. The benefit of increased understanding of the persons, worlds, and challenges of both will increase population harmony and develop a future where no lines are drawn in the sand, only human beings living out their lives to the fullest.

When each person is actively involved in their employment life, costs to subsidize and micro-manage must evidently be reduced as each individual takes up their own part, therefore, the community and state burden to uphold an employable individual becomes reduced.

**5. Describe the geographic coverage.**

PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS, INC., is located adjacent to Shipman Business District on a leased portion of 1,200 undeveloped acres in Keaau, Hawaii, on the Big Island. We are a training center and tropical flower/foilage farm site. This grant would be applied to the same property location as presently used in Keaau, Hawaii.

In addition, We believe this grant, along with our 10 years of hands on education, established farm/nursery business relationships, and various job skill training capabilities would expand training, education, and employment potentials throughout the Big Island's many other agricultural sites in Hawaii providing a much needed workforce to the present farmers and provide an avenue of employment to any supported person with developmental disabilities in tropical agriculture.

## **II. Service Summary and Outcomes**

The Service Summary shall include a detailed discussion of the applicant's approach to the request. The applicant shall clearly and concisely specify the results, outcomes, and measures of effectiveness from this request.

**1. Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities:**

Scope of Work: It is proven by the present work of Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc. that individuals with developmental disabilities are a quality

workforce through supported employment. Increasing this workforce is paramount. Build structures which will last and support training and employment reaching the full agricultural sphere of the Big Island.

Tasks: Increase opportunities, develop a trained workforce, build a warehouse facility and additional greenhouses, acquire plant products, provide training, obtain sales.

Responsibilities: Secure all goals and objectives through primary owners of Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc.

**2. The applicant shall provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service;**

PKF, INC.	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
2008 Capital	1 <sup>st</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> month	6 <sup>th</sup> - 9 <sup>th</sup> month	9 <sup>th</sup> - 12 <sup>th</sup> month
Grant In Aid	Construction Hire, Train, Place33	Hire, Train, Place33	Hire, Train, Place34

**PHASE 1 (1<sup>st</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> month)**

Construction - Obtain Architect plan and design, Construction applications, land prep, foundation prep, order lumber, roofing, fixtures. Hire qualified building labor force, Construction begins, pour slab, layout, drywall, plumbing, electrical, roofing, flooring (obtain all pertinent inspections). Finish work, painting, ADA approved site and final approvals, final inspections.

Hire, train, and place in jobs - 33 new individuals with developmental disabilities in jobs within PKF, Inc. (like building a facility warehouse and greenhouses) or within the community. Provide active, on going training within the community, case management, caregivers, via radio, seminar, or conference meetings to increase visibility, awareness and employment.

Hire and train all new proposed staff: *Direct Support Workers*

**PHASE 2 (6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> month time frame)**

Hire, train, and place in jobs - 33 new individuals with developmental disabilities in jobs within PKF, Inc. (like building a facility warehouse and greenhouses) or within the community. Provide active, on going training within the community, case management, caregivers, via radio, seminar, or conference meetings to increase visibility, awareness and employment.

Hire and train all new proposed staff:

*Direct Support Workers*

*Employment Specialist*

*Job Development/ Training Specialist*

*Family Outreach Specialist*

*Benefits Planner Specialist*

*Plant Production Manager*

**PHASE 3 (9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> month time frame)**

Hire, train, and place in jobs - 34 new individuals with developmental disabilities in jobs each quarter within PKF, Inc. or the community workforce. Provide active, on going training within the community, case management, caregivers, via radio, seminar, or conference meetings to increase visibility, awareness and employment.

Hire and train all new proposed staff: *Direct Support Workers*

- 3. The applicant shall describe its quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results; and**

PKF, Inc. "Training and Employment Center" Trends and Quality Assurances are provided through on going monthly, quarterly, and annual evaluations and audits. All related reports and pertinent documentations are studied, monitored, and reviewed through relevant associated governmental agencies, internal checks and balances, and outside certified public accountant.

- 4. The applicant shall list the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency through which grant funds are appropriated (the expending agency). The measure(s) will provide a standard and objective way for the State to assess the program's achievement or accomplishment. Please note that if the level of appropriation differs from the amount included in this application that the measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.**

A study of training facility concluded that to meet employment opportunity needs for persons with DD/MR, PKF, Inc. needs \$600,000.00 dollars to satisfactorily complete a primary training facility in 6 months.

Additionally, an analysis of material approaches leads PKF, Inc. to conclude that it is possible to increase by 600% the number of individuals with DD/MR training/employing by the present number of only 15 DD/MR persons.

- 100 DD/MR satisfactorily completing primary training at PKF, Inc. per 1 year (12 months) of time.
- Increase of the facilities for training 100 DD/MR per 1 year at a cost of \$6,000.00 per person.
- **An increase** to Hawaii State tax funds ( SUI Tax 1.5 %, SUTA .01%) by approximately **\$22,770.80** in paid taxes as a result of 100 persons with DD/MR earning \$1,508,000.00 at minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour @ 40 hour weeks for 1 year (12) months.
- Therefore creating a large, recognizable, substantial **decrease** of Hawaii State Adult Day Health costs for 100 persons with DD/MR of **\$1,690,000.00** at an average cost of \$65.00 per week day, per 1 year (12 months) of time. (this is an figure assuming the individuals left an ADH program to go to work.)

### III. Financial

#### Budget

1. **The applicant shall submit a budget utilizing the enclosed budget forms as applicable, to detail the cost of the request.**
2. **The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requirements for the fiscal year 2008-2009.**

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
500,000.00	50,000.00	30,000.00	20,000.00	600,000.00

### IV. Experience and Capability

#### A. Necessary Skills and Experience

**The applicant shall demonstrate that it has the necessary skills, abilities, knowledge of, and experience relating to the request. State your experience and appropriateness for providing the service proposed in this application. The applicant shall also provide a listing of verifiable experience of related projects or contracts for the most recent three years that are pertinent to the request.**

PUNA KAMALI'I FLOWERS, INC. 10 year record is evidential history of our program impacting organizations or individuals. Our work has proven positive results for those families, caregivers, and persons with developmental disabilities who are trained and choose to work full or part time, therefore, providing proof



that our work is an avenue for economical, social and emotional stability for each employee with developmental disabilities through jobs.

**B. Facilities**

**The applicant shall provide a description of its facilities and demonstrate its adequacy in relation to the request. If facilities are not presently available, describe plans to secure facilities. Also describe how the facilities meet ADA requirements, as applicable.**

PKF, Inc., Training and Employment Center, present facilities are located on a renewable leased 1,200 acre parcel adjacent to Shipman Industrial Business District in Kea'au Hawai'i.

The present building consists of a slab foundation; wooden 40' x 80' county permitted structured building with an office staff area, lunchroom area, lavatories, training and work production areas. We are not limited under any agreements for the expansion of our facilities for training and employment purposes therefore it is ideal for growth.

The needed increase of building size and development of land use for tropical agriculture and other training is of great need. With a larger facility we could expand services greatly.

**V. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing**

**A. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training**

**The applicant shall describe the proposed staffing pattern and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request. The applicant shall provide the qualifications and experience of personnel for the request and shall describe its ability to supervise, train and provide administrative direction relative to the request.**

Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc. (*PKF, INC. Training and Employment Center*)  
Proposed Staffing Pattern:

1	<i>Contractor - Building Supervisor</i>
1	<i>Production Manager</i>
1	<i>Transportation Manager</i>
4	<i>Drivers</i>
1	<i>Mechanic</i>
1	<i>Employment Supervisor</i>
1	<i>Employment Research Specialist</i>
1	<i>Job Development Specialist</i>

- 1 *Training Specialist*
- 1 *Outreach Specialist*
- 1 *Benefits Planner Specialist*
- 1 *Grounds and Maintenance Manager*

Staff Qualifications: APS, CPS, criminal history clearances  
TB clearance  
First Aid/CPR certification  
State of Hawaii contractual requirements for individuals who work with persons with developmental disabilities

Supervision: All supervision to be provided by President and Vice President of PKF, Inc.

Training: All applicable PKF, Inc. onsite or offsite training provided for each position  
Available Course hrs: 20 hr, 40 hr, 192 hr, 340 hrs  
Direct Support Worker mandatory course - ASSET  
Visions, Mandt, CPI Training Course

Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc., presently employs up to 36 individuals, 20 staff plus 16 individuals with developmental disabilities, and also provides additional services to 10-15 or more individuals with disabilities in other types of services.

Our present staff consists of a President, Vice President, Executive Assistant, Payroll Clerk/ Bookkeeper, Service Scheduler, Lead Job Coach, and several trained Job Coaches (Direct Support Worker).

**B. Organization Chart**

**The applicant shall illustrate the position of each staff and line of responsibility/supervision. If the request is part of a large, multi-purpose organization, include an organizational chart that illustrates the placement of this request.**

**PKF, Inc. Training and Employment Center**

President

Vice President

Executive Assistant

Payroll Clerk

Bookkeeper  
Director - Adult Day Health-Employment Transition Center  
Sales Manager  
Production Supervisor  
Transportation Manager  
Drivers  
Mechanics  
Service Supervisor  
Direct Support Worker (DSW) - Lead Job Coaches  
Direct Support Worker (DSW) - Job Coaches  
Direct Support Worker (DSW) - PA's  
Employment Supervisor  
Job Research Specialist  
Job Development Specialist  
Job Training Specialist  
Outreach Specialist  
Benefits Planner Specialist  
Grounds and Maintenance Manager

**VI. Other**

**A. Litigation**

The applicant shall disclose any pending litigation to which they are a party, including the disclosure of any outstanding judgement. If applicable, please explain.

NONE

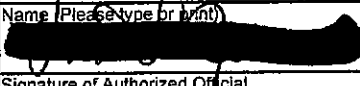
**B. Licensure or Accreditation**

Specify any special qualifications, including but not limited to licensure or accreditation that applicant possesses relevant to this request.

2006 SBA Minority Champions of the Year  
Department of Health, DDD contracted Medicaid Waiver Provider #526303  
Specializing in Supported Employment  
Department of Labor WIA Provider # PY00ETP-HC  
US Social Security Ticket to Work Employer Network (EN)  
US Small Business Hub Zone # P0628453  
PUC Licensed #PUC 5725-C

**BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS**  
(Period: July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009)

Applicant:     PUNA KAMALI'I FLOWERS, INC.    

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
<b>A. PERSONNEL COST</b>				
1. Salaries				
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments				
3. Fringe Benefits				
<b>TOTAL PERSONNEL COST</b>				
<b>B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES</b>				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island				
2. Insurance				
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment				
4. Lease/Rental of Space				
5. Staff Training				
6. Supplies				
7. Telecommunication				
8. Utilities				
9. Construction Costs	530,000			
10. Plant Material	49,800			
11. Supplies (Wheel barrows, rakes, etc)	9,000			
12. supplies ( fertilizer)	11,200			
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
<b>TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES</b>	<b>600,000</b>			
<b>C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES</b>				
<b>D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES</b>				
<b>E. CAPITAL</b>				
<b>TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)</b>	<b>600,000</b>			
<b>SOURCES OF FUNDING</b>		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	0	VICKI L. NELSON	808-982-8322	
(b)	600,000	Name (Please type or print)	Phone	
(c)	0		1/31/08	
(d)	0	Signature of Authorized Official	Date	
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>600,000</b>	VICKI L. NELSON	VICE PRESIDENT	
		Name and Title (Please type or print)		

**BUDGET JUSTIFICATION  
PERSONNEL - SALARIES AND WAGES**

Applicant: Puna Kamali Flowers, Inc.

Period: July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME BUDGETED TO REQUEST B	TOTAL SALARY BUDGETED IN REQUEST A x B
Listed on operating application				\$ -
N/A				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
<b>TOTAL:</b>				\$ -
<b>JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:</b>				

## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Applicant: Puna Kamali Flowers, Inc. Period: July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
Metal Green House 100 x 100 foot - equipment	1.00	\$500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	
Shade Cloth 100 x 100 foot - equipment	1	\$30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	
Plant material	49800	\$1.00	\$ 49,800.00	
Supplies ( wheel barrows, rakes, clippers)25 each	60	\$150.00	\$ 9,000.00	
Supplies (fertilizer)	28	\$400.00	\$ 11,200.00	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	49,890		\$ 600,000.00	
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
NONE			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL:</b>			\$ -	
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				

**BUDGET JUSTIFICATION  
CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS**

Applicant:           PUNA KAMALI'I FLOWERS,

Period: July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED						
TOTAL PROJECT COST	ANY OTHER SOURCE OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS		STATE FUNDS REQUESTED		FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS	
	FY: 2005-2006	FY: 2006-2007	FY:2007-2008	FY:2008-2009	FY:2009-2010	FY:2010-2011
PLANS						
LAND ACQUISITION						
DESIGN						
CONSTRUCTION				530000		
EQUIPMENT				70000		
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<i>600,000</i>		
JUSTIFICATION COMMENTS:						

**DECLARATION STATEMENT  
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES  
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant acknowledges that said applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants and subsidies pursuant to section 42F-103, Hawai'i Revised Statutes:

- (1) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the services for which a grant or subsidy is awarded;
- (2) Comply with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
- (3) Agree not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
- (4) Allow the state agency to which funds for the grant or subsidy were appropriated for expenditure, legislative committees and their staff, and the auditor full access to their records, reports, files, and other related documents and information for purposes of monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and assuring the proper expenditure of the grant or subsidy.

In addition, a grant or subsidy may be made to an organization only if the organization:

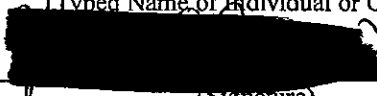
- (1) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and
- (2) Has bylaws or policies that describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant or subsidy is awarded shall be conducted or provided.

Further, a grant or subsidy may be awarded to a non-profit organization only if the organization:

- (1) Has been determined and designated to be a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
- (2) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.

Further, the undersigned authorized representative certifies that this statement is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PUNA KAMALI'I FLOWERS, INC.  
(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

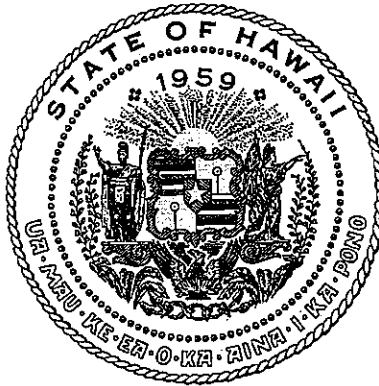
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
1/31/08  
(Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
VICKI L NELSON  
(Typed Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
VICE PRESIDENT  
(Title)





**Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING**

I, the undersigned Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify that according to the records of this Department,

PUNA KAMALI'I FLOWERS, INC.

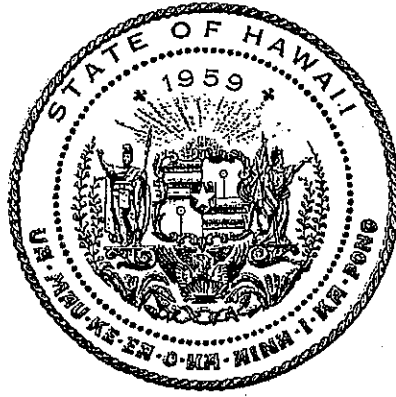
was incorporated under the laws of the State of Hawaii on 06/08/1998 ; and that it is an existing corporation in good standing, and is duly authorized to transact business.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dated: August 09, 2007



  
Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs



# The Senate State of Hawaii

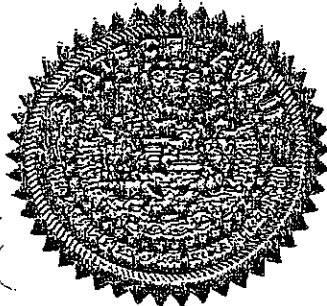
CONGRATULATES  
TOM AND VICKI NELSON  
U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
MINORITY SMALL BUSINESS CHAMPION OF THE YEAR AWARD  
2006 SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS

The U.S. Small Business Administration annually recognizes small business owners and advocates who demonstrate outstanding excellence and achievement in the business community.

Tom and Vicki Nelson, President and Vice-President of Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc. received the 2006 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year Award for their successful employment of persons with disabilities. Puna Kamali'i Flowers, established in 1998, is a family-owned floricultural business located in Kea'au on the Big Island. The company produces foliage and package materials and employs 40 people.

Tom and Vicki provide a 350-hour pre-employment training program and have a 100% placement rate for people graduating from the program. The business demonstrates that proper training, coaching and supervision can result in productive employees. Employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities are a win/win situation, enabling employees to earn money that enhances their independence and life skills.

The Senate honors and congratulates the achievements and dedication of Tom and Vicki Nelson upon being named the 2006 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year and extends to them its warmest aloha and continued success in all their endeavors.



*W. Sabam*  
*Bob Hayes*  
*Donna M. ...*  
*...*  
Done this 21st day of April 2006  
State Capitol, Honolulu, Hawaii  
*Bernice S. Kohl*  
Sponsoring Senator  
*...*  
President of the Senate  
*...*  
Clock of the Senate  
*...*

To whom it may concern,

I Deborah Flores has known the Puna Kamalii flowers for several of years. In that years I seen how they support the disability people and help them. My son orren has work with them for about 2 years and I seen a lot of progress with him. He learn how to plant a lot of plants, shred paper and a lot more other things. I think it's a good thing for them because it gives them something to do and learn about. It's better for them, than just staying home and doing nothing. So please help support them with the green house so they have a lot more jobs.

Thank you  
Deborah Flores

3/9/06

Dear Russell Hokubun,

Please help support Tom and Vicki Nelson's efforts in obtaining the funds for the greenhouses needed at their farm.

Our son Marlin is an employee at Puna Kamalii Flowers and the special love and caring they have given him has improved his skills and patience a lot.

I have seen the company grow from a small business to what it is today, the Nelsons has invested a lot of their time and money to make this happen.

My son could not fit in with the programs in Hilo, but with the special care and guidance at Puna Kamalii Flowers my son is doing fine and is happy to go to work every morning.

The mentally challenged people who work there need ~~not~~ the greenhouses to expand their knowledge about propagating and growing flowers and foliage. They will also learn how to pick, grade, pack & ship flowers to the mainland.

Please Kokua,

Yours Truly,

Ronald & Darcy Yu

TO VICKI ~~AND~~ NELSON

By tasha

VICKI,

YOU ARE A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN

THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO  
AND FOR HAVING ~~ME~~ ME APART OF PUNYA KAMAKI.

8<sup>th</sup> March 06

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to give my full support to Puna Kamalii Flowers. They are providing an invaluable service to my son and the community. The services they are providing have enabled my mentally disabled son to live a productive life and build his self esteem. I believe Puna Kamalii Flowers has an enormous positive impact, not only on the people they employ, but on the community as a whole.

Thank You,

Dawn A. Harnor

Harry Kim  
Mayor



Dixie Kaetsu  
Managing Director

Peter T. Young  
Deputy Managing Director

### COUNTY OF HAWAII

25 Aupuni Street, Room 215 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553  
KONA: 75-5706 Kuakini Highway, Suite 103 • Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740  
(808) 329-5226 • Fax (808) 326-5663

April 24, 2001

Senator Brian Taniguchi  
Senator Lorraine Inouye  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senators Taniguchi and Inouye:

I would like to use this means to express my support for the grant-in-aid application which was submitted by Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc.

I have tried to avoid most of the requests I receive for endorsement of various and sundry products, but I could not help but be impressed by the operation conducted by Puna Kamali'i Flowers. As you may know, this organization is a designated training site under the Department of Labor, employing mentally challenged individuals, along with people involved in welfare-to-work. I also understand they provide training opportunities for non-disabled individuals who want to pursue occupational goals, such as para-professional job coaches or disability aides who will be working with the mentally challenged.

I know that your budget is tight, and that not all worthwhile projects can be funded. For that reason alone, I appreciate your consideration of this particular grant-in-aid.

Aloha,

A large black rectangular redaction covering the signature of Harry Kim.

Harry Kim  
MAYOR

A small black rectangular redaction mark.

# Bank of Hawaii

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March 1, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:


Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc. ("PKF") is a valued resource to the Hawaii Island community. PKF serves a little recognized minority on the island in its practice of hiring individuals with learning disabilities. These individuals are often overlooked and ignored, but PKF has proven that with proper training, coaching and supervision, these people can become viable, productive and motivated employees contributing to the overall health of their communities through an increased sense of self-worth and self-sufficiency.

Puna Kamali'i Flowers is a for-profit corporation, which uses its revenues to give back to its employees through supervision, coaching, transportation to and from work, as well as social events in an effort to keep them active and give them a stream of income versus staying home with no sense of accomplishment.

Principals Thomas and Vicki Nelson work tirelessly to provide a healthy and positive work environment for their employees and must expand to remain competitive with other business in agriculture by means of acquiring greenhouses, new plants for retail, and more coaches and trainers for their employees.

Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc. serves a much needed function on Our Island and provides a strong voice for its employees and others like them. Any funding received through grants goes to the education and supervision of these individuals through employment rather than government assistance, which in turns strengthens the overall economy. I strongly support financial aid and grant monies to assist them in expanding a much needed service.

Respectfully submitted

  
Keene Fujinaka  
Bank of Hawaii



To Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc.

I finally received a disc from the photographer. Here's some pictures from the wedding. I tried to pick out ones that really showed the color and quality of your products. I included a picture of the ring bearer and flower girl because he wore a lei and she was tossing loose orchids. There's a picture of us cutting the cake because we used some of the foilage, orchids and heloconia to decorate the cake, cake table, as well as the arch over it. The sunflower was a remembrance thing. And there was one with the orchid leis too. Anyhow, please let me know if you need anything else! I hope these pictures help to show your customers what wonderful service you supply! Thank you! Sorry it took so long.

Dajon Schafer

# Starbulletin.com

Monday, August 15, 2005



COURTESY OF PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS

Tokyo's Haruka Sekino, center, who has Down syndrome, learns to operate a paper-shredding machine at the Big Island company Puna Kamalii Flowers, which employs mentally handicapped people. Employee Zeb Nelson flashes a victory sign in the foreground while Haruka's mother, Nobuko, looks on in the background.

## Handicapped Japanese are finding hope in Hilo

A family hopes to show Japan  
examples of programs for  
the mentally challenged

By Rod Thompson  
[rthompson@starbulletin.com](mailto:rthompson@starbulletin.com)

HILO » Haruka Sekino of Japan has operated a newspaper-shredding machine at Puna Kamalii Flowers for a total of about three hours during the past two weeks.

That's a lot for the 20-year-old woman with Down syndrome whose parents were told that she would never be able to work.

To be sure, Haruka was assisted by Zeb Nelson, 27, an employee of Puna Kamalii and the son of owners Tom and Vicki Nelson. But Zeb is himself mentally challenged, developmentally disabled since birth, unable to hear or use language.

His parents were also told he would never be able to work, but he has been working at the family company 40 hours per week for several years.

Having seen for themselves the progress that mentally challenged people can make in America, Haruka's parents, Kazuhiko and Nobuko Sekino of Tokyo, are planning to bring tours of Japanese officials, service providers and families with mentally disabled individuals to Honolulu and the Big Island starting next year to show them what can be accomplished.

The Sekinos outlined their plans and asked for assistance last week in a meeting in Hilo with state, county and business leaders.

The eventual goal is seven programs bringing at least 140 participants to the Big Island per year, Kazuhiko Sekino said.

Sekino, 55, retired from the insurance industry, got the idea of tours for the mentally disabled and their families two years ago while he was on a cultural exchange program in Southeast Asia sponsored by the Japanese government. Among the participants were a blind person, a deaf person and one in a wheelchair, he said.

The Japanese government has programs for the physically handicapped but not the mentally handicapped, he said.

In fact, services for the mentally disabled are declining in Japan, as budget cuts have been made, he said.

Nobuko Sekino said the government now pays for a maximum of 12 hours per month. In contrast, Vicki Nelson said she knows some mentally disabled people getting 55 hours per week of service from special assistants on the Big Island.

The service in Japan is also impersonal, Nobuko Sekino said. In Hawaii, service providers pay more attention to the individual interests of the people they are helping, she said.

These are the differences that the Sekinos want people back home in Japan to know about.

While the tours will be educational, they are also intended to give parents a break from the constant strain of giving care to a disabled family member.

"The parents are exhausted," Kazuhiko Sekino said. "We want to help them have a relaxed time."

While specific plans are in the very early stage, programs for young, mentally challenged people coordinated through the University of Hawaii at Hilo show that such tours can succeed.

Judith Fox-Goldstein, director of the Conference Center at the university, said at the meeting with the Sekinos last week that she had just finished providing a five-day program for [redacted] youths from the mainland. Only as the tour was leaving did she learn that half of the program leaders were mentally challenged graduates of the program, she said.



October 17, 2006

Ms. Vicki Nelson  
Puna Kamali'i Flowers  
16-211 Kalara Street  
Keaau, HI 96749-8005

Dear Ms. Nelson

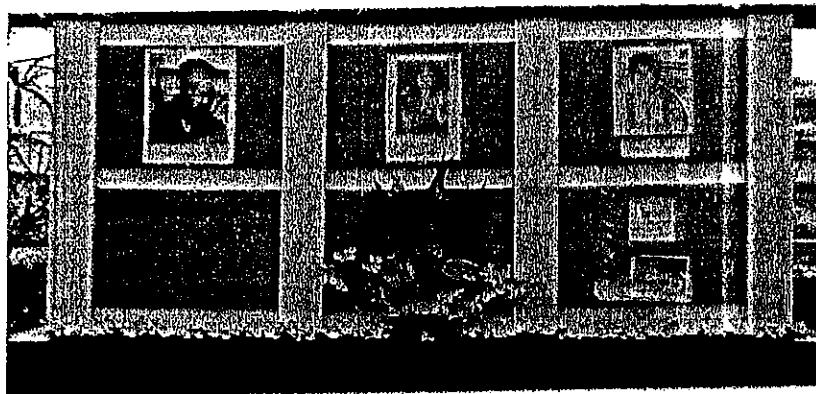
Thank you very much for donating six table top flower arrangements for the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life - Hilo held on July 15-16, 2006.




Your kind donation helped our Luminary Committee create a serene environment to honor those touched by cancer.


With your support, our event brought together hundreds of community participants and raised \$276,006.

Thank you again for joining us in making significant strides towards a cancer-free future. We value this relationship tremendously and hope that you will continue to support our efforts in the future.

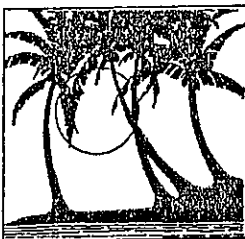


Sincerely,

  
Marcie M. Kawamura  
Luminary Tri-chair *MM*

  
Mark Y.T. Chun  
Luminary Tri-chair *MYTC*

  
Cecily R. Unoki  
Luminary Tri-chair *CRU*



*Jacinta Helin-Hanks*


May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006

Aloha Vicki,

Enclosed is the check for the Tropical Blend which you sent to Minnesota for Mother's Day. My most sincere apology for the delay in sending this to you. It won't happen again.

Thank you again so much for sending the flowers.

Have a great summer.

  
Jacinta



**RECEIVED**  
BY  DATE 

P.O. Box 1922 • Honoka'a, HI 96727  
Telephone • Home: (808) 775-0383 • E-mail: helinkilinau@yahoo.com  
Work: (808) 775-8800 ext. 281 • Fax: (808) 775-8803



# Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce

106 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Phone: (808) 935-7178  
Fax: (808) 961-4435  
E-mail: admin@hicc.biz  
[www.hicc.biz](http://www.hicc.biz)

Tuesday, May 02, 2006

Contact  
Address  
Address

RE: Letter of Support from the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce

Aloha \_\_\_\_\_!

On behalf of the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce, its Officers and Directors, I am pleased to inform you that we support the efforts of Puna Kamali`i Flowers, Inc.

Vicki and Tom Nelson continuously proved to be valuable members of our community and the Chamber by supporting the many endeavors throughout the year through participation, volunteerism and floral contribution.

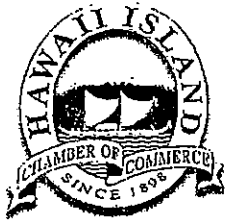
In addition to this, Puna Kamali`i Flowers has won the 2006 Small Business Administration Award for Minority Small Business Champion. This award is given to an individual or business that has demonstrated a commitment to support greater participation of a minority or underserved segment of the community in business.

Quoted by SBA, "What makes this business extraordinary is that the mission is to train disabled individuals, to become viable, productive and motivated employees".

Thank you for your interest in Puna Kamalii Flowers who enhances our local community through their many endeavors.

Sincerely,

Richard Nelson  
President  
Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce



# Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce

106 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Phone: (808) 935-7178  
Fax: (808) 961-4435  
E-mail: admin@hicc.biz  
[www.hicc.biz](http://www.hicc.biz)

Puna Kamali'i Flowers  
16-211 Kalana Street  
Keaau HI 96749

March 27, 2006

Dear Vickie Nelson,

On behalf of the President's Cup Golf Committee of the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce, we would like to sincerely thank you for your continued support of the fund raising and fellowship event, the **"President's Cup Golf Tournament."**

The 6th Annual President's Cup was held on Saturday, February 18, 2006 at the Big Island Country Club. We are pleased to inform you that it was a smashing success, thanks mostly to supporters like yourself.

If the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce can ever assist you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us at (808) 935-7178. We have served businesses in Hawaii since 1897, and we would be happy to serve you again today.

Again we wish a great Big Mahalo to your organization for generously giving prizes and sponsorship support. We hope 2006 will be a good year for your business and we look forward to speaking with you again real soon.

Sincerely,

**BARRY K. TANIGUCHI**  
Co-Chair

**NEWTON J. CHU**  
Co-Chair

5/1/2006

To Whom It May Concern:

Puna Kamalii Flowers has provided services for my two foster boys from 9/29/03 – present. They have been very flexible and helpful. They have excellent Personal Assistants and there bending backwards to meet our every need.

Mahalo,

[REDACTED]

Alma Devore

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



Feb. 17, 2006

To: Vicki Nelson – Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc.

From: Carol VanCamp

Re: Donation Request for UH Hilo Alumni Silent Auction

On Friday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>, the University of Hawai'i Hilo Alumni & Friends Association will be honoring the achievements and contributions of three alumni and two community leaders for their professional and civic accomplishments.

The recognition will occur at the organization's annual Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards banquet to be held at the UH Hilo Campus Center, beginning at 5:30 p.m. We are expecting between 150 and 200 people to attend this prestigious event.

Distinguished alumni honorees will include Gregory Chun, president of Bishop Holdings and GM of Keauhou Resort; Dr. Henry Lee Loy, physician; and James Melody, educator. Distinguished service awards will be presented to Robert Fujimoto, retired, and Chairman of the Board of Hawaii Planing Mill, Ltd. (HPM); and Dwight Takamine, State Representative.

Through this event, the UH Hilo Alumni & Friends Association hopes to raise funds to provide scholarships to UH Hilo students. We will be holding a silent auction, and would like to request your participation as a contributor. We are seeking auction items that will be appealing to the people who will be attending, such as entertainment and dining opportunities, gift certificates, goods and services, etc. Donors will be recognized in the event program. We would appreciate any donation you would like to provide.

We appreciate your ongoing support for UH Hilo, and look forward to hearing from you soon about this request. Please call me at 966-4648 if you have any questions (or e-mail me at [cvancamp@generalgrowth.com](mailto:cvancamp@generalgrowth.com)). You can send any donations directly to UHH (address them to: YuYok Pearring, University Relations, UHH, 200 W. Kawili St., Hilo, HI 96720), or call me and I will be happy to pick them up at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Carol A. VanCamp  
Member, UHH Alumni & Friends Board of Directors



# Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce

106 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Phone: (808) 935-7178  
Fax: (808) 961-4435  
E-mail: [admin@hicc.biz](mailto:admin@hicc.biz)  
[www.hicc.biz](http://www.hicc.biz)

May 16, 2005

Vicki Nelson  
Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc  
160211 Kalana Street  
Keaau, HI 96749

Dear Vicki,

Thank you for participating in our Agricultural Expo held at the Prince Kuhio Plaza. We hope you had an enjoyable experience.

Enclosed is your credit card receipt for \$52.00.  
If you have any questions, please contact me at (808) 935-7178.

Thank you for supporting the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce.

Sincerely,

Kelly T. Panem  
Administrative Assistant

Enclosure

**UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO**

Administration  
University Relations

March 15, 2006

Vicki Nelson  
Puna Kamalii Flowers Inc.  
16-211 Kalara St.  
Keaau, HI 96749

Dear Vicki,

On behalf of the UH Hilo Alumni and Friends Association, I would like to thank you for your generous donation to our recent silent auction at the 2006 Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards Banquet event.

Your participation allowed us to surpass our goal of \$5,000 and raised \$7,700 of scholarship funds to be used for students pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies at UH Hilo. Additionally, this effort afforded us the opportunity to add more fun to that evening's honoring of our five distinguished award recipients.

Being that this was only our second such fund raising endeavor, the success would not have been possible without your kind support!

It is through such collaborations that we are able to provide aspiring students easier access to higher education for the benefit of our community.

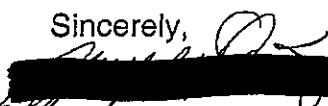
Last year, we presented our first scholarship awards to three successful applicants – one undergraduate and two post-baccalaureate students. The Association aims to award scholarships to three other students this Fall 2006.

Plans for our 2007 Distinguished Alumni and Service Awards Banquet have started and we sincerely appreciate your continued support when we contact you later this year for your contribution.

Once again, a great big **MAHALO** for your support of UH Hilo and our Alumni and Friends Association.

Wishing you, your family and your business continued health, happiness and success.

Sincerely,

  
  
Yu Yok Pearring  
Director of Marketing and Alumni

Vicki Nelson

---

From: Irene Nagao [inagao@verizon.net]  
 Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2005 9:57 AM  
 To: 'Vicki Nelson'; Tommy Goya; Stephanie Nagata; Stanley Fortuna Jr; Sharon Ibarra; Seth Murashige; Roberta Cartwright; rfreitas@hawaii.edu; Phoebe Lambeth; Peter Michaud; Paula Thomas; Mele Spencer; Lei Andrade; Kathy Hammes; Jim Moulds; Jane Kawachi; Irene Nagao; Gary Fujihara; Eva Bogue; Cathy.Hashimoto@cancer.org; Burt Anderson; 'Blayne Hanagami'; Oscar libed  
 Cc: jccih@gte.net; exec@hicc.biz; Dwayne Mukai; Richard L. Nelson  
 Subject: NOVEMBER 15 FACULTY RECEPTION MAHALOSII  
 Importance: High

HELLO EVERYONE:

THAT WAS A SUPER EVENT LAST NIGHT AT OUR FACULTY RECEPTION FOR UHH & HAWCC. THIS ANNUAL EVENT IS SOMETHING NICE THAT WE CAN DO FOR THE EDUCATORS.

I THINK THEY ALL ENJOYED THEMSELVES AND APPRECIATED THE GREAT FOOD AND SOCIALIZATION AND RECOGNITION THAT THE CHAMBERS GAVE THEM.

WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS AND STAFF FOR AGAIN SPONSORING THE FOOD, FACILITIES AND MOST OF ALL THEIR SUPPORT FOR OUR CAUSE. MAHALO STAN AND CAROL.

THIS YEAR, WE RECEIVED OUTSTANDING SUPPORT FROM PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS AS THEY DECORATED THE DINING ROOM WITH BEAUTIFUL FLORAL BOUQUETS, AND PROVIDED A GREAT NUMBER OF LEIS. THANK YOU VICKI AND PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS.

SPECIAL THANKS TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHO WERE ABLE TO COME TO THE EVENT AND HELP IN ADDITION HICC AND JCCIH STAFF WORKED HARD TO PUBLICIZE THE EVENT, AND DO ALL THE DETAILED THINGS THAT MAKE THINGS HAPPEN.

MY SPECIAL THANKS TO:

HICC STAFFERS SHARON, MELANIE AND JOAN FOR WORKING OUT ALL THE DETAILS AND MANNING THE REGISTRATION ..(Thank you Lorena for the help at the office)

JCCIH STAFF OF ONE- JEAN FOR HELPING LAST NIGHT WITH REGISTRATION

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

LEI, MELE, PHOEBE, TOM AND SETH FOR HELPING AT THE RECEPTION DESK WITH REGISTRATION, GIVING OUT LEIS AND TAKING PICTURES.

PETER, GARY, MELE, ROBERTA FOR HELPING WITH THE DOOR PRIZES

MAHALO ALSO TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS' BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS THAT WERE SPONSORS OF THE EVENT: HMSA, KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS, PUNA KAMALI'I FLOWERS, HAWAIIAN TELCOM, AND AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY.

WE HAVE A GREAT EDUCATION COMMITTEE, AND I THANK EVERYONE ON THE COMMITTEE FOR SUPPORTING OUR MISSION.

AGAIN—MAHALO AND ALOHA

IRENE AND PETER ( EVENT CO-CHAIRS)

/2006



## **Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc.**

16-211 Kalara Street, Keaau, HI 96749

Ph (808) 982-8322

FAX (808) 982-8544

Email: [punakamaliiflowers@verizon.net](mailto:punakamaliiflowers@verizon.net)

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Rainalynn L. Pia  
Assistant Service Supervisor/Job Coach

March 9, 2006


To Whom It May Concern:

I am an employee of Puna Kamali'i Flowers Inc. Assistant Service Supervisor/Job Coach for the past three (3) months within those three (3) months I have seen this place blossom. I have never worked with Developmentally Challenged Individuals before this is a very great experience for me. I never thought there were programs that actually handle this type of employment for developmentally challenged individuals. Which actually pays minimum wage no matter what there disabilities may be. Through this company I have gained a lot of knowledge and how these individuals should have the same right as any other person. Puna Kamali'i Flowers Inc. provides a lot of opportunities for challenged individuals. Here at Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc. we provide transportation to and from the worksite, personal assistant 1 services and chore worker.

Here at Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc. we have a Ti-leaf farm. Participants shred newspaper, shred confidential documents for varies companies, make floral arrangements for community functions and landscaping. The participants here at Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc. are really involved in community projects.

When I entered the doors to Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc. I felt like this is where my heart belongs this is where I am needed. My services are to help serve these individuals and accomplish what ever goal they have set forth in life no matter what disability they have. They always stay strong and push forward. These individuals never give up. Every morning I walk in the building all I see in front of me are big smiles, friendly hand shake and warm hugs. I really love my job here at Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc. especially all our participants they are wonderful individuals. We are like one big ohana (family).

Sincerely,

  
Rainalynn L. Pia

Vicki Nelson

---

From: Irene Nagao [inagao@verizon.net]  
Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2005 9:26 AM  
To: 'Vicki Nelson'  
Subject: LAST NIGHT'S UHH/HAWCC RECEPTION

ello Vicki:

HANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL PUNA KAMALII FLOWERS DID FOR THE RECEPTION.

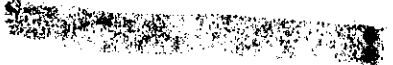
can't tell you how much we appreciated the generosity and work that you and your staff did to help make last night's event so colorful and bright..

We used every lei and made so many people happy with the flowers. We did leave the two large floral arrangements that Carol said they could use. She was going to contact you about returning the things you needed back.

Thank you for being part of our education committee and being members of the chamber. I again thank you so much and let me know if I can be of any help to you in the future.

Ahalelo with lots of Aloha!

Irene



BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO  
GOVERNOR



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

April 26, 2001

Mr. Thomas G. Nelson  
13-1020 Kahukai Street  
Pahoa, Hawai'i 96778

Dear Mr. Nelson:

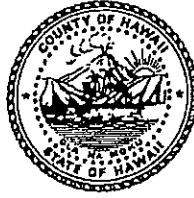
It is a pleasure to inform you that on April 25, 2001, the Senate of the Twenty-first Legislature, Regular Session of 2001, overwhelmingly approved your nomination to the State Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities.

A swearing-in ceremony will be scheduled at a later date, at which time Governor Cayetano will formally appoint you for a term to expire June 30, 2002. Congratulations upon your confirmation.

Sincerely,

Celia C. U. Suzuki  
Administrative Assistant

Harry Kim  
Mayor



Dixie Kaetsu  
Managing Director

Peter L. Hendricks  
Deputy Managing Director

## COUNTY OF HAWAII

25 Aupuni Street, Room 215 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553  
KONA: 75-5706 Kuakini Highway, Suite 103 • Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740  
(808) 329-5226 • Fax (808) 326-5663

December 27, 2005

Tom and Vicki Nelson  
Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc.  
16-211 Kalara Street  
Keaau, HI 96749

Dear Tom and Vicki:


Many months ago, Vicki sent the mayor an e-mail, offering to help individuals with work. The Mayor asked me to respond, and somehow the message got lost on my desk. I sincerely apologize for the time that has passed. It was not the Mayor's fault, but purely mine.

As you well know, I have been to your farm and am well aware of the work you do with training for people with disabilities. You are providing a tremendous service, and we all are very grateful for the work you do.

Everything that the County does in the area of workforce development is through the State Department of Labor, Workforce Connection (Blayne Hanagami). I know you are already involved with that program, but if you think there is some other way in which we can make better use of your services, I hope you will let me know. My e-mail is [alevin@co.hawaii.hi.us](mailto:alevin@co.hawaii.hi.us), and I promise to be more prompt in responding next time.

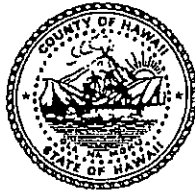
In the meantime, please accept my best wishes for the new year.

Very truly yours,

  
Andrew Levin  
Executive Director



Harry Kim  
Mayor



Dixie Kaetsu  
Managing Director

Peter L. Hendricks  
Deputy Managing Director

## COUNTY OF HAWAII

25 Aupuni Street, Room 215 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252 • (808) 961-8211 • Fax (808) 961-6553  
KONA: 75-5706 Kuakini Highway, Suite 103 • Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740  
(808) 329-5226 • Fax (808) 326-5663

August 29, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

I writing in support of the Japan/Hawai'i Exchange Program for the Mentally Challenged.

This program is aimed at establishing a high level of care for the mentally challenged through international exchange programs, providing opportunities for friendship and information exchange between Japanese and American mentally challenged youth, their families, schools and nursing facilities.

This program's goal is to promote global awareness among the mentally challenged of both countries while also enhancing the level of care for the mentally challenged through exchanges of culture, information and expertise.

By broadening the horizons of our mentally challenged youth we enrich the quality of our society as a whole.

I wholeheartedly endorse this program and support it without reservation.

Aloha,

[Redacted Signature]  
[Redacted Name]  
Harry Kim  
Mayor, County of Hawai'i



# Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce

106 Kamehameha Avenue  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Phone: (808) 935-7178  
Fax: (808) 961-4435  
Email: [exec@hicc.biz](mailto:exec@hicc.biz)  
[www.hicc.biz](http://www.hicc.biz)

Monday, September 12, 2005

Vicki L. Nelson  
Vice President  
Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc.  
16-211 Kalara St.  
Kea'au, HI 96749-8005

RE: Letter of Support from the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce

Aloha Vicki!

On behalf of the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce, its Officers and Directors, I am pleased to inform you that we support the efforts of Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc. and the Organization for the Promotion of Intercultural Exchange for the Mentally Challenged (OPIEMC) to foster international tourism for developmentally disabled individuals in Japan.

Thank you for your continuous efforts to create this avenue that has the potential to enhance our local community through economic development and increased tourism revenue.

Sincerely,

Richard Nelson  
President  
Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce



Telephone: 935-8826  
FAX: 935-0059

P. O. 644  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720


PETER M. TADAKI  
Certified Public Accountant  
688 Kinoole Street  
Suite 211  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

April 19, 2005


Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc.  
16-211 Kalara Street  
Keaau, Hawaii 96749

To Whom it may concern;

I am the accountant for Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc. I am supporting their efforts to obtain a federal grant to enable them to market recycled materials. Their business benefits the disabled community and the community as a whole. As such this grant will provide needed funding to help with company operations.



Sincerely yours,



Peter M. Tadaki CPA

*Leilani Tropicals - on the big island, where color grows*

P.O. Box 426 Pahoa, Hawaii 96778  
(800) 889-1038 or (800)635-6937  
fax (808) 965-8065


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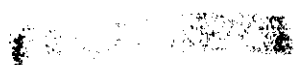
April 19, 2005

To whom in may concern:

Puna Kamalii Flowers Inc. is a company helping our community in a number of ways. We feel they are a great asset to our community by giving those who are developmentally challenged training and work in a safe environment. They also help in recycling materials on an island that recycling is definitely needed.

We look forward to doing a long and healthy business with Puna Kamalii.

  
Wendy Martin  
Operations Manager  
Leilani Tropicals





## *Orchid Isle Dendrobiums*

CERTIFIED NURSERY

April 19, 2005


In Support of Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc. of 16-211 Kalara Street, Keaau, HI, 96749

We are a grower/shipper of cut and potted orchids and have been in business in Keaau, Hawaii for 20 years. We ship orchids to wholesale and retail florists throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. We have purchased all the shredded newspaper we use at our nursery from Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc. since July, 2001.

We fully support Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc. for these reasons:

- 1) Puna Kamalii produces shredded newspaper, which is an important packaging material for our business and for many other floral shippers here in East Hawaii. We use large quantities of shredded newspaper in our shipping boxes as insulation and padding to protect our flowers and plants from damage during shipping. Puna Kamalii is a reliable vendor. We can depend on Puna Kamalii's consistent high quality and friendly service for the packing shreds we need at a competitive price.
- 2) Puna Kamalii helps our local community by offering training and employment to developmentally disabled persons. Puna Kamalii has created jobs for individuals who may not otherwise find employment. These workers show a sense of pride and accomplishment in their work, and they produce an excellent product.
- 3) Puna Kamalii also helps our local environment by recycling newspaper into a useful and marketable product.

We believe that Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc. is a valuable asset to our community as a manufacturer, employer and recycler. Puna Kamalii Flowers helps our local floral industry, our community and our environment by producing packing shreds from recycled newspaper. We believe that growth in their business, employment programs and product offerings would be beneficial to our entire community.

  
Deborah Hay  
Owner

# Recycle Hawai'i

P.O. Box 4847 • Hilo, Hawai'i • 96720  
InfoLines: 808.329.2886 • 808.961.2676  
Office Tel: 808.969.2012 • Fax: 808.969.2014  
[www.recyclehawaii.org](http://www.recyclehawaii.org) • [info@recyclehawaii.org](mailto:info@recyclehawaii.org)

April 20, 2005

PUNA KAMALI'I FLOWERS, INC.  
16-211 KALARA STREET  
KEA'AU HI 96749

To Whom It May Concern:

Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc. has been an integral subcontractor to the success of our Kea'au Recycling and Reuse Center (KRRRC) for the past two years.

We fully support their endeavors in providing value-added product from recyclable commodities collected at KRRRC and in any other projects that will support continued jobs creation and training for their employees.

It has been a pleasure working with the principals and workers of Puna Kamali'i Flowers, Inc., in getting our community recycling center started in 2003 and its continued success within the Puna community.

Sincerely,

  
Paul J. Duklarczyk, Executive Director

## Kaleialoha Orchid Farm, Inc.



HCR 1 Box 5782 ◆ Keaau, HI 96749-9412 ◆ USA  
Phone (808) 982 5204 ◆ Fax (808) 982 5204 ◆


April 19, 2005.

To Whom It May Concern:

Kaleialoha Orchid Farm, Inc. is in support of Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc. and the valuable packing product they provide to the orchid industry. Having a useable product for packing purposes is very beneficial to the floral and potted plant industry in general.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact me at the number or address listed above.

Regards,

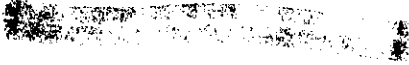
  
Mary Monroe  
President  
Kaleialoha Orchid Farm, Inc.

10-14-2005

Aloha,

What heartwarming articles! Mahalo for sharing your company's kuleana for providing services for the developmentally disabled. As a Career Academy School, our students look forward to business and community collaboration in assisting them with work based learning opportunities. Our 11<sup>th</sup> graders will be participating in a Job Shadows experience in the Spring 2006, while some of them will also participate in an internship opportunity in the Summer 2006. In addition, Seniors have a culminating project, our Senior Legacy, in which mentors will provide knowledge and assistance with career expertise. We are very much interested in your offer to assist our students. We are in the process of hiring a Career Academy Liaison, whose position will focus on business collaboration. That person should be aboard within the next few weeks and will contact you regarding support of our Academies. I commend Puna Kamali'i Flowers for reaching out into our East Hawaii community in support of our schools.

Aloha, Marion Makaimoku, Career Academy Coordinator, Kamehameha Schools Hawaii  
Campus







EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR

January 30, 2007

Tom and Vicki Nelson  
Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc.  
16-211 Kalara Street  
Keaau, Hawaii 96749

Dear Tom and Vicki:

I appreciated your letter about the challenges you have been facing in employing persons with disabilities at your company, Puna Kamalii Flowers, Inc.

I know how much both of you care about our efforts to integrate persons with disabilities into the wider community. That is why it was disturbing to learn that you have not received the level of support expected from our Department of Health's Developmental Disabilities (DD) Division.

I have spoken to Dr. Fukino about the importance of referring persons to your program who can benefit from the work experience and support you will provide them. I have also asked her to work closely with Marian Takashima, the DD Division Case Management Supervisor in Hilo, who is handling the referral process.

We admire the efforts of your company to set an example for other firms interested in working with those who have physical or mental limitations. I remember the well-deserved award you received last year from the U. S. Small Business Administration.

Thank you for your kind words about my re-election. It is a humbling to know I have the support of so many good people in our state, including yours.

Sincerely,



LINDA LINGLE

cc: Dr. Fukino

