JOSH GREEN LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



SCOTT T. MURAKAMI DIRECTOR

ANNE E. PERREIRA- EUSTAQUIO DEPUTY DIRECTOR

JOVANIE DOMINGO DELA CRUZ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 420 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 www.hawaii.gov/labor Phone: (808) 586-8675 / Fax: (808) 586-8685 Email: dlir.ocs@hawaii.gov

February 24, 2020

To:

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair

The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Re:

SB 2796, SD 1, Relating to the Kalaupapa Memorial Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 12:40 p.m., Room 211

Decision-Making:

Same and a sale

Position:

Comments only

Aloha, Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

The Office of Community Services (OCS), by its founding statute, HRS Chapter 371K, is committed to serving the immigrant communities in the State of Hawaii, as well as other underserved communities. The present bill would provide an appropriation of an unstated amount to OCS to establish a Kalaupapa Memorial to serve as a permanent commemoration of the people who were isolated on the peninsula of Kalaupapa, Molokai by government policies because of Hansen's disease, starting in 1866. The bill initially called for the Department of Health to administer this grant. By SD 1, OCS was identified as the administering agency.

While OCS is greatly honored to be considered for this duty, especially because of the historical and cultural importance of the Kalaupapa settlement, we believe that there are other agencies in the State government that are better suited to administer the construction and maintenance of this Memorial. We note that the property is DHHL land that is currently under a long-term general lease to the National Park Service which is in the process of developing a General Management Plan for the Kalaupapa National Historic Park. We respectfully suggest that planning for a memorial should be undertaken in coordination with that General Management Plan. Accordingly, OCS humbly requests at this time that the Ways and Means Committee consider assigning this duty to another agency of the State government that will be able to work with the National Park Service pursuant to the General Management Plan.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Respectfully,

Jovanie Domingo Dela Cruz

Executive Director

SB-2796-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2020 8:40:43 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lopaka Hoopii	Testifying for Ka Ohana O Kalaupapa	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Labor, Culture and the Arts Committee,

My name is Lopaka Hoopii. I am a board director and a member of Ka 'Ohana o Kalaupapa and have been serving on this board since 2016.

My grandparents were residents of Kalaupapa since the early 1900's and are buried in Kalaupapa along with two uncles and their wives. My dad, Robert, was born in Kalaupapa along with 6 of his siblings. He just turned 91 years old this past February 3rd.

I am writing in strong support of the Kalaupapa Memorial which is an idea of the residents who asked Ka 'Ohana o Kalaupapa to lead this effort which will list all the names of the estimated 8,000 people sent to Kalaupapa.

We are requesting that the State Legislature allocate \$5 million for construction of the Memorial. Ka 'Ohana is also raising \$5 million for an endowment to make sure the Memorial is maintained and cared for in perpetuity.

This memorial will be a living monument as future generations visit it and learn about ancestors they might not have known about, keeping alive the important history of Kalaupapa and preserving the legacies of the thousands of men, women, and children who were forcibly isolated there.

I would love for my dad to witness this historical memorial before he passes.

Respectfully,

Lopaka Hoopii, Director

Ka 'Ohana o Kalaupapa



February 23, 2020

Chairperson Donovan Dela Cruz Ways & Means Committee Hawai'i State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Hearing: Tuesday, Feb. 25, 12:40 p.m., Room 211

In Support for The Kalaupapa Memorial – SB2796

To Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

The people of Kalaupapa and Kalawao have been speaking to us for more than 154 years. They have written and signed thousands of letters and petitions, participated in oral history projects, been interviewed for newspaper articles, and testified on numerous occasions before various government agencies. There are several different admission records filled with thousands of names, written and re-written to ensure that the names of all those sent to Kalaupapa would be part of the permanent record of the history of Hawai'i.

I have been going to Kalaupapa for over 50 years – since I was 16 years old and a junior at Kalani High School. My father was on the Citizen's Committee that changed the century-old isolation policy in 1969. I have conducted more than 200 hours of oral history interviews with the residents of Kalaupapa, some of who were sent there as early as 1914 and 1915. My most recent book, "Kalaupapa: A Collective Memory" was more than 500 pages long and filled with the names of and words of people who were taken from their families and friends because they had leprosy, also known as Hansen's Disease.

Over my half century of researching the history of leprosy in Hawaii and working to present this history in the words of the people who experienced it, I have seen two constants:

- 1) A strong determination on the part of those individuals sent to Kalaupapa that this history and the people who lived it are remembered;
- 2) An expectation of justice. Petitions and letters expressed the belief that right would prevail in a situation that was so filled with deep personal pain, separation, and hardship.

IDEA Center for the Voices of Humanity, 32 Fall Street, Suite A, Seneca Falls, NY 13148; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 651, Seneca Falls, NY 13148; Telephone: 315-568-5838; FAX: 315-568-5891; email: alaw@idealeprosydignity.org

When I first visited Kalaupapa there were about 200 permanent residents – there are now12. Each time we go to Kalaupapa we are overwhelmed with grief as we visit the graves of those we knew or have come to know through our research. However, the feeling of grief soon transforms into a renewed determination that the trust placed in us by the people of Kalaupapa to ensure that they will be remembered as they told us they wanted to be remembered, will be honored. The Kalaupapa Memorial is one of the most important interpretive tools we will have to tell the history of the people of Kalaupapa. Over the last several years, Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa has not just compiled a list of names – but a list of individuals, about whom we learn more every day.

The Kalaupapa Memorial enables us to tell an inclusive history of Kalaupapa. It will proudly serve as a permanent symbol of justice for the estimated 8,000 individuals sent to Kalaupapa as it returns them to the history of their families, the history of Kalaupapa, the history of Hawai'i and the history of the world.

We hope that the Hawai'i State Legislature will proudly support the Kalaupapa Memorial through passage of SB2796 so that the final residents of Kalaupapa will be able to personally witness all of the names come back to life.

Sincerely,

Anwei Skinsnes Law, M.P.H.

Anur S. Law

Director, IDEA Center for the Voices of Humanity

IDEA President for Heritage & Education

Historian, Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa

2344 Lower Lake Road Seneca Falls, NY 13148

February 23, 2020

Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairperson Ways & Means Committee Hawai'i State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Hearing: Tuesday, Feb. 25, 12:40 p.m., Room 211

In support of SB2796 -- The Kalaupapa Memorial

To Chairperson Dela Cruz and Members of the Ways & Means Committee:

I first visited Kalaupapa in 1977 as an historical architect. I was part of an effort to review the condition of some 400 buildings and make recommendations on repair needs including rough cost estimates. This was a small part of a legislated planning effort to determine the feasibility of having Kalaupapa designated as part of the National Park System.

Kalaupapa National Historical Park (NHP) was authorized by an act of Congress and signed into law in December 1980. I was hired in 1982 as the first and only permanent NPS employee until Kalaupapa NHP received its first annual appropriations in fiscal year 1985. At that time I was appointed the first Superintendent. In conversations with the residents about what they felt was most important for the National Park Service to focus on, they overwhelmingly said that they wanted to see the graveyards cleared and all of the graves and taken care of. It was clear that they wanted to be remembered and wanted those who had come before them to be remembered.

Clearing the graves is a way to honor both the past and present residents and it became the top priority for the NPS when I was Superintendent and continues to be a priority today. I was at Kalaupapa in early February and was very happy to see how good the graveyards look. However, there are only a little more than 1,000 identified graves at Kalaupapa out of an estimated 8,000 people who were sent there. There is a field next to Father Damien's Church and across from the site of the Kalaupapa Memorial that has about 2,000 unmarked graves. The Kalaupapa Memorial will honor all of these individuals and ensure that every person who was sent to Kalaupapa is remembered and included in their own history. The Kalaupapa Memorial will serve to remember their lives and legacies for the education and inspiration of present and future generations.

Sincerely,

Henry G. Law First Superintendent, Kalaupapa National Historical Park hlaw@idealeprosydignity.org; 315-568-5838

SB-2796-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2020 5:06:51 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ellen Christine Storm	Testifying for Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Ellen Christine Storm. I am a founding member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa.

My husband, Rev Dr Lon Rycraft was the Protestant minister in Kalaupapa for Kanaana Hou and Siloama churches (UCC) from 1993 to 2005. Living in Kalaupapa for almost twelve years gave us a unique experience and perspective. The residents of Kalaupapa are survivors in the deepest sense. They were able to move beyond the pain, the suffering, the sadness in such a way as to be examples to all of us. They are the true heroes.

The Kalaupapa Memorial is the idea of the residents of Kalaupapa. Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa is requesting that the State Legislature allocate \$5 million for construction of the Memorial. Ka 'Ohana is also raising \$5 million for an endowment to make sure the Memorial is maintained and cared for in perpetuity.

The Kalaupapa Memorial will remember and honor all of the people by their name. The Memorial will return the names to the history that they helped create. It will serve as a symbol of justice. The Memorial will help family members find healing and closure. It will be a living Memorial as future generations visit and learn about ancestors they might not have known about, keeping alive the important history of Kalaupapa and preserving the legacies of the thousands of men, women and children who were forcibly isolated there.

Thank you for your

work. Thank you for your support of SB2796-SD1 to provide the funding for the Kalaupapa Memorial.

Sincerely, Ellen Christine Storm/Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa

SB-2796-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 9:16:22 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kalei Dagulo	Testifying for Ka Ohana O Kalaupapa	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senator Donovan Dela Cruz and members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Kalei Dagulo and I am a decendant of Lizzie Long my great-great-grandaunt who was sent to Kalaupapa at the age of 12 years old. She does not have a tombstone along with many others that were sent to Kalaupapa and the memorial is a way to honor and remember them. The memorial will also provide closure for families that were seperated so many years ago and provide a place for families to reconnect, reflect and remember those who lived at Kalaupapa. I am also a Board member of Ka Ohana O Kalaupapa and I strongly support SB2796-SD1 which would provide \$5 million dollars to construct the memorial.

Mahalo for your time and consideration!

Kalei Dagulo

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman Ways and Means Committee Hawai'i State Legislature Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Bill Number: SB2796-SD1

Hearing: February 25, 2019, 12:40 p.m. Room 211, Hawai'i State Capitol

I write in support of SB2796-SD1, funding The Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Marcia Weight Lyons. I am a member of, and a volunteer with *Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa*. I am writing in support of SB2796-SD1 which would fund construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial. *Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa* has been working on this project at the request of Kalaupapa residents who expressed their desire to establish a Memorial in Kalaupapa that would list the names of those sent there as a way to remember and honor them.

My father, Edward Weight, was born in Kalaupapa, taken from his parents who he never met, and lived his childhood in an orphanage and foster homes. My grandparents, who were sent to Kalaupapa, and two of their sons are buried there. I have had opportunities to hear the residents share their stories, feelings, and thoughts on what it would mean to them to have this memorial built and I feel that they speak for my family and all of those who lived and died in Kalaupapa since 1866.

My Dad was 81 years old when he became involved with *Ka 'Ohana* and he met other families with Kalaupapa connections. With these people he was able to open up and share a part of himself that was locked away. With these people he realized he was not alone. I witnessed a sense of peace and a shift in his sense of self that I attribute to his ability to connect himself to his mother as well as other people who shared stories with similarities to his own. I saw my father come to a new understanding of who he was and a sense of belonging to a place and his own family. This is why I know that the Memorial will serve as a place of reconnection and healing for descendants.

Please support SB2796-SD1 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Mahalo, Marcia Weight Lyons marciL.email@gmail.com

<u>SB-2796-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/20/2020 6:02:23 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman Ways and Means Committee Hawai`i State Legislature Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Bill Number: SB2796-SD1

Hearing: February 25, 2019, 12:40 p.m. Room 211, Hawai`i State Capitol

I write in support of SB2796-SD1, Requests that the State Legislature allocate funding for construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chairman Donovan Dela Cruz, and Members of Ways and Means Committee

My name is Colin Brede. I am the nephew of David Kalani Kaluai Brede (1933-2009) and Jimmy Aheana Brede (1929-2016) who was taken from their love ones and sent to Kalaupapa 15 May 1942 at the young ages of 9 and 13. David and Jimmy are siblings of my father John P Brede (1930-2017).

I am writing in strong support of SB2796-SD1 which would fund construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial. Our 'Ohana has been working on this important project since the Kalaupapa residents asked us to establish a Memorial at Kalaupapa that would list the names of everyone sent there.

Uncle David is buried in the catholic section at Kalaupapa with a headstone marking his grave site. Uncle Jimmy and his wife Aunty Nancy ashes was spread in Kalaupapa Bay 2016.

The names of the people of Kalaupapa have been mostly forgotten over the years and left out of the history that they helped to create. The Kalaupapa Memorial will make certain that they will be forever remembered and returned to the history of Kalaupapa and their family histories. The Memorial will serve as a place of connection for descendants who will find healing and pride as they are surrounded by the names. It is for the generations of those to come to never forget.

The United States Congress passed The Kalaupapa Memorial Act that was signed by President Barack Obama in 2009, authorizing Ka 'Ohana to establish the Memorial. I 'am an active member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, we have been

involved in federal and state compliance processes, assembled a strong Memorial Committee that produced a beautiful and meaningful design for the Memorial, compiled the names of nearly 8,000 people who were sent to Kalaupapa, and developed a fundraising strategy. Ka 'Ohana is also raising \$5 million for an endowment to make sure the Memorial is maintained and cared for in perpetuity.

My Family the Brede's and Apio's, humbly ask for your support of SB2796-SD1 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully submitted,
Colin K Brede
Nephew of David Brede, Jimmy Brede and Nancy Brede
Member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa
Friend of Rotary Club of Mililani Sunrise
ckbrede@hawaii.rr.com

From: <u>Hitoshi Hida</u>
To: <u>WAM Testimony</u>

Subject: Testimony for Bill 2796 for WAM Committee Hearing

Date: Sunday, February 23, 2020 11:13:01 PM

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman Ways and Means Committee Hawai`i State Legislature Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813

Bill Number: SB2796-SD1

Hearing: February 25, 2020, 12:40pm

Room 211, Hawai'i State Capitol

I write in support of SB2796, funding \$5 million for The Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Senator Dela Cruz and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Hitoshi Hida. It is my honor to be invited to assist the Memorial Committee as an architect in developing the conceptual design for the Kalaupapa Memorial.

It was in June of 2015 when I went to Kalaupapa first time with the Memorial Committee members. It was on the flight to Kalaupapa that I was shown a conceptual design and felt it was divinely inspired. The Committee and Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa accepted the design and since then they have been using the design to give the vision and to promote the project.

The concept is composed of two circles each representing the people with Hansen's disease who were sent away to Kalaupapa and the family who were left behind. This memorial helps to pull the two circles together and reconnect the families who were separated. There is also a stone wall surrounding Mauka-side circle with the names of the 8000 patients to be inscribed onto it to celebrate their lives.

I think it is important for our generations to memorialize these people and their families as well as the place. Therefore we humbly ask for your support of SB2796 to provide funding of \$5 million for the Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully submitted,

Hitoshi Hida

Hitoshi.hida@outlook.com

Kehaulani Lum 99-045 Nalopaka Place `Aiea, Hawai`i 96701

Testimony on Senate Bill 2796, SD 1, Relating to the Kalaupapa Memorial Senate Committee on Ways and Means Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 12:40 p.m. Conference Room 211, State Capitol

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kehaulani Lum, and, on behalf of my ancestors and my `ohana, I strongly support SB 2796, SD1, which authorizes funds for the design, plan and construction of the Kalaupapa Memorial.

This cherished Memorial will remember and honor all the people of Kalaupapa by their name. Many of them belonged to children and have been forgotten over the years and left out of history. The Memorial will serve as a symbol of justice, a place of healing, family reunification and remembrance, especially, for our `ohana, who still carries the pain of separation, from one generation to the next.

My late granduncle, Henry Kalalahilimoku Nala`ielua, was only a 10 year old child, when he was sent to Kalaupapa, in 1941, all alone. Three of his siblings had been solated there, before him, yet, he found, when he arrived, that they had all died, within only a few years of landing. Uncle Henry testified to the U.S. Senate, in 2009, calling for the creation of a Memorial:

"I believe that the Memorial will be a place that people could go to," he said, "and just by looking at the list, they find a relative or friends they knew...I think for me it would be a cherished memory to have a monument that tells the people this is what we wanted and this is what they have."

A year after delivering his testimony, Uncle took his last breath. He did not live to see his earthly dream fulfilled, but through the compassion and commitment of all of you, the 'Ohana, and a prestigious volunteer design team, it is coming to life.

8,000 beloved individuals were exiled to Kalaupapa, most of who died there and are buried in unmarked graves, separated in life and in death from their parents and families, yet, we have no sacred site to honor and reflect upon their great sacrifices. There is no edifice that speaks their names.

The National Park Service writes of Kalaupapa in this way:

"Few places in the world better illustrate the human capacity for endurance or for charity than the remote Kalaupapa Peninsula on the island of Molokai. The area achieved notoriety when the Kingdom of Hawai'i instituted a century-long policy of forced segregation of persons afflicted with Hansen's disease...

'On January 6, 1866, the first group of nine men and three women were dropped off at the mouth of Waikolu Valley, the closest accessible point to Kalawao on the southeast side of the peninsula. By October of the same year, 101 men and 41 women had been left to die at Kalawao."

The law forcing the exile of children, women and men diagnosed with Hansen's Disease would remain in full execution until 1969, when it was finally abolished.

By then, 8,000 citizens of Hawai'i, and the families who were left behind, paid the ultimate sacrifice, to alleviate the suffering of others.

The Kalaupapa Memorial is a way for us, a civilized and enlightened society, to give them, in death, what they were denied in life...our deepest gratitude and Aloha.

Ka 'Ohana is requesting \$5 million from the Legislature for construction of the Memorial, and we are raising an additional \$5 million for an endowment to make sure the Memorial is maintained and cared for in perpetuity.

The cost, per person, of this request is \$625.00. What is the value of a human life, which suffered and died in exile, so that our ancestors and we could survive?

Mahalo nui loa for your support of this measure and for shining a light on Hawai`i's true heroes.

Me ke aloha nui loa,

Kehaulani Lum

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman Ways and Means Committee Hawai'i State Legislature Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Bill Number: SB2796-SD1

Hearing: February 25, 2019, 12:40 p.m. Room 211, Hawai'i State Capitol

I write in support of SB2796-SD1, funding \$5 million for The Kalaupapa Memorial

Dear Senator Dela Cruz and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

My name is Susan Woo Smith. I am the great-granddaughter of Wong Chew, who was taken from his family in 1931 and forced to reside in Kalaupapa from 1935-1939. In 2016, I began a journey to learn about my great-grandfather. At the time, I didn't even know his name, little was ever spoken about him. I only knew he had been taken from his family by "Men in white coats." I have since come to know Wong Chew, my great-grandfather, as a successful businessman, husband, and father of thirteen children. In 2018, I went to Kalaupapa to pay homage to my great-grandfather. I anticipated a trip of great sadness; but instead, I discovered Kalaupapa, a community of people whose strength and courage built that community. Realizing this brought pride, rather than shame, to my family.

I am writing in strong support of SB2796-SD1, which would provide \$5 million for construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial. The Memorial will provide dignity for the 8,000 men, women, and children forcibly sent and isolated at Kalaupapa. It will remember and honor them by name. It will be a Memorial where the present and future generations can pay homage to the people sent to Kalaupapa, find healing, and acknowledge this important part of history.

I ask for your support of SB2796-SD1 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully, Susan Woo Smith Great-Granddaughter of Wong Chew susanjwsmith@gmail.com Sister Alicia Damien Lau, osf 15 Bishop Home #0129 P.O. Box 129 Kalaupapa, HI 96742 February 23, 2020

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman Ways and Means Committee Hawai'i State Legislature Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Bill Number: SB2796

Hearing: February 25, 2020, 12:40 p.m. Room 211, Hawai'i State Capitol

I write in support of SB2796, funding \$5 million for The Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

My name is Sister Alicia Damien Lau, a Sister of St Francis from the Order of Saint Marianne Cope who arrived in 1883 at the request of King Kalakaua and Queen Kapiolani, to care of those Hawaiian people who were afflicted with the disease of leprosy. Mother Marianne Cope came to Kalaupapa on November 14, 1888 and our Sisters have been here continuously since then.

I came down to Kalaupapa in 1965 and had met many of the patients. Since then I have spent weekends, several times a month in the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s. In 2012, when I retired from healthcare, I spent half of my time, and later, three-fourths time in Kalaupapa as a National Park Service Volunteer. Now, I am in Kalaupapa full time as a volunteer and as a part-time employee of The Pacific Historic Parks Bookstore.

I am writing in strong support of SB 2796 in which Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa is requesting \$5 million from the Legislature for construction of the Memorial and that they are raising an additional \$5 million for an endowment to make sure the Memorial is maintained and cared for in perpetuity. As a former board member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, I listened to the Kalaupapa resident/patients express the desire to have a Memorial established at Kalaupapa which would list the names of everyone sent there.

The United States Congress passed The Kalaupapa Memorial Act that was signed by President Barack Obama in 2009, authorizing Ka 'Ohana to establish the Memorial. Since that time, 'Ohana has been involved in federal and state compliance processes, assembled a Memorial Committee that produced a beautiful and meaningful design for the Memorial, compiled the names of nearly 8,000 people who were sent to Kalaupapa, and developed a fundraising strategy.

The Kalaupapa Memorial will make certain that those who were sent to Kalaupapa, will be forever remembered and returned to the history of Kalaupapa and their family histories. The Memorial will serve as a place of reconnection for descendants who will find healing and pride as they are surrounded by the names.

I, and all the Sisters who had cared for them, ask for your support of SB2796 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully and humbly submitted,

Sister Alicia Damien Lau, OSF Sisters of St Francis of the Neumann Communities adlau@sosf.org



Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman, Ways and Means Committee

SB2796-SD1: Funding The Kalaupapa Memorial

Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 12:40 p.m., Room 211

I write in strong SUPPORT of SB2796-SD1

Aloha Chairman Dela Cruz and members of the Ways and Means Committee,

As a founding member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa and now the Executive Director, I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 2796-SD1 that would provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial. The Memorial will remember by name each of the estimated 8,000 men, women and children who were taken from their families and sent to Kalaupapa.

Ka 'Ohana is asking that the Legislature allocate \$5 million for construction of the Memorial, as was originally requested by Senator J. Kalani English when he introduced this bill.

We believe this is a reasonable request. The State of Oklahoma contributed \$5 million to the construction of the Oklahoma City National Memorial to honor the 168 individuals who were killed in that bombing. The State of Pennsylvania contributed \$18.5 million toward the establishment of the Flight 93 National Memorial to commemorate the 40 passengers and crew who died on September 11, 2001.

Ka 'Ohana will also be raising an additional \$5 million from other sources for an endowment so the Kalaupapa Memorial will be maintained and cared for in perpetuity.

Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa was the vision of the late Kalaupapa leader Bernard Punikai`a. It was his idea to bring together family members, descendants and friends of Kalaupapa to make sure the voices of the residents would be heard long into the future. Our 'Ohana organized in 2003 when 70 people – Kalaupapa residents, family members and friends – gathered at Kalaupapa.

During that first meeting, Kalaupapa residents spoke passionately about the importance of a Memorial so that they and everyone sent to Kalaupapa before them would always be remembered. The US Congress supported our idea and passed The Kalaupapa Memorial Act

which authorizes Ka 'Ohana O Kalauapapa to establish the Memorial that would display the names of everyone who was forcibly isolated at Kalaupapa. This bill was signed by President Barack Obama.

Since then, we have been completing federal and state compliance processes and assembled a Design Team of professionals, cultural specialists and family members which produced a Conceptual Design of the Memorial that was enthusiastically approved by Kalaupapa residents and other important supporters. We now have a team of professionals working on the final design and construction plans and are nearing completion on compiling the list of names of everyone sent to Kalaupapa. With guidance from a consultant, we have prepared a Fundraising Strategy.

When we began in 2003, there were about 38 Kalaupapa residents living. Today, we have 12. Over the years, residents have signed petitions, written letters, provided testimony and attended meetings in support of The Kalaupapa Memorial.

The Memorial will be a permanent reflection of the mission of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa: "E Ho`ohanohano a E Ho`omau....To Honor and To Perpetuate."

We humbly ask for your approval of SB2796-SD1 – and we thank you for your support.

Respectfully,

Valerie Monson, Executive Director

Valvie Mon

Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa

February 25, 2020 12:40 P.M. Room 211, Hawaii State Capitol COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON S.B. 2796 S.D.1 RELATING TO THE KALAUPAPA MEMORIAL

Chair Dela Cruz and members of the committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill. My name is Patrick Boland and I am in strong support of the bill.

I first visited Kalaupapa 53 years ago. Since that time I have become friends with many of the residents, and have become an avid student of the history and people of the place. The people are remarkable and their stories and accomplishments are compelling. They deserve to be properly remembered and honored.

Of the approximately 8,000 people who were sent to Kalaupapa, more than 6,000 are in unmarked graves. There is no visible display of their names. This memorial will remedy that lack.

I would like to point out that in 2008 both houses of the Legislature passed S.C.R. No. 208 which recognized and acknowledged the people of Kalaupapa and their families for their sacrifices; and apologizing for harsh government policies. In short, it acknowledged Hawai'i's debt to these people. Funding the Kalaupapa memorial is a logical next step and the right thing to do.

Again, I ask you to support this measure and thank you for your attention.

Patrick Boland 45-665 Uhilehua St. Kaneohe, HI 96744

boland@lava.net

SB-2796-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/23/2020 5:23:20 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wally Inglis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, and

Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

I stand in strong support of this bill and recommend that the figure of \$5 million in the original draft be restored. Knowing the generosity of Hawaii's people and their deep respect for the residents of Kalaupapa over mamy generations, I am certain most would consider this a modest investment in a well-deserved tribute.

Please report out SB279 for Third Reading.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Wally Inglis

Palolo Valley

Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman Ways and Means Committee Hawai`i State Legislature Honolulu, Hawai`I 96813

Bill Number: SB2796

Hearing: February 25, 2020, 12:40 p.m.

Room 211, Hawai'i State Capitol

I write in support of SB2796, funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Jason Umemoto. I am on the Board of Directors of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa and have been serving as the Chairperson of the Kalaupapa Memorial Committee. The Committee is comprised of current residents, descendants, 'Ohana members and dedicated professional consultants all seeking to realize this dream to provide a touchstone to ancestors and celebrate their community.

My involvement is directly related to my relationship with my grand-uncle Ed Kato, who was a long-time resident-patient at Kalaupapa. In particular, my Uncle Ed spoke to me about the idea of a memorial for many years when it was just an idea being carried by the community to try and establish a way to memorialize the community and dramatic history of the peninsula.

I am writing in strong support of SB 2796 which would provide funding for construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial. The 'Ohana is seeking 5 Million dollars for construction, while the 'Ohana is fundraising for an additional 5 Million dollars for an endowment to make sure the Memorial is maintained and cared for in perpetuity.

The names of the people of Kalaupapa have been mostly forgotten over the years and left out of the history that they helped to create. The Memorial will serve as a place of reconnection for descendants who will find healing and pride as they are surrounded by the names.

We humbly ask for your support of SB2796 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully submitted, Jason Umemoto, Chair, Kalaupapa Memorial Committee Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, Director

SB-2796-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 10:13:30 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tessa Munekiyo Ng	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Tessa Munekiyo Ng and I am a member of the Kalaupapa Memorial Design Committee. I have been working with the Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa for many years to help make this important Memorial a reality.

I am writing in strong support of SB 2796 which would provide \$5 million for construction of The Kalaupapa Memorial.

The United States Congress passed The Kalaupapa Memorial Act that was signed by President Barack Obama in 2009, authorizing Ka 'Ohana to establish the Memorial. Since that time, the 'Ohana has been involved in federal and state compliance processes, assembled a strong Memorial Committee that produced a beautiful and meaningful design for the Memorial, compiled the names of nearly 8,000 people who were sent to Kalaupapa, and developed a fundraising strategy.

The names of the people of Kalaupapa have been mostly forgotten over the years and left out of the history that they helped to create. The Kalaupapa Memorial will make certain that they will be forever remembered and returned to the history of Kalaupapa and their family histories. The Memorial will serve as a place of reconnection for descendants who will find healing and pride as they are surrounded by the names.

We humbly ask for your support of SB2796 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

To: Chairman Donovan Dela Cruz Ways and Means Committee

Testimony: SB2796 (The Kalaupapa Memorial)

My name is Pauline K. Puahala Hess and I am strongly in favor of SB2796 Kalaupapa Memorial. I am the daughter of Jubilee and Cathrine Puahala, formerly Kalaupapa patient residents, now deceased. Due to regulations our family was broken apart at my birth. I was finally allowed to visit my mom and dad in Kalaupapa when I was 21 years old. Visits were in the summer and in the longhouse at Hale Mohalu in Pearl City with a wire mesh separating us. Despite the harsh regulations and social stigmatism, I found my parents to be extra ordinary people who lived extraordinary lives.

My mom and many others from Kalaupapa traveled the world to spread the Aloha of these Hawaiian Islands. Mom and I were invited to speak to Hansen's disease patients in Japan and to share with them on how our family was able to reconcile with one another. At the time we were still working on our own reconciliation, so it was very interesting to see it unfold as we shared.

I have heard the voices of our Kūpuna O Kalaupapa at our annual meetings in Kalaupapa, who asked each year to please do the memorial before the last patient is no longer us. They have said, that the "names" on the memorial will bring closure and reconciliation for the families who were torn apart. I believe the memorial will do just that for families.

The Kalaupapa Memorial is also to be a conduit for every visitor to see, touch and experience the silence about them as they sit and visit the memorial. It is meant to be a place designed for quiet reflection and peace for all people.

In 2008, Kūpuna Elizabeth Ku'ulei Bell, then President of Ka''Ohana O Kalaupapa spoke to the CNHA conferees about the Kalaupapa Memorial and the 8000 names of the people on the memorial. One hundred names were read out loud. At the end of the reading of the names, one family member after another and then another, on and on, stood up to acknowledge the name of their family member. The response then was overwhelmingly and unequivacably, in favor of the Kalaupapa Memorial. I believe it remains to be a resounding yes with the people for the Kalaupapa Memorial.

Mahalo nui loa to the Ways and Means Committee's review and consideration to help make this living memorial come true for those who were sent to Kalaupapa and for their families who will come. And especially for those Kūpuna O Kalaupapa who have directed us to make this happen.

Pauline K. Hess Member of the Kalaupapa Memorial Committee Former member of the Board of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa

Testimony of Lorna Catalani Granddaughter of Leon Nono, deceased

Before the Hawai'i State Legislature Ways and Means Committee

February 25, 2020, 12:40 p.m. Room 211, Hawai'i State Capitol

In Support of Bill Number SB 2796, Relating to the Kalaupapa Memorial

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Ways and Means Committee,

My name is Lorna Catalani, and I am the proud granddaughter of Leon Nono. My grandfather was sent to Kalaupapa in 1941 at the age of 36 and lived his life there for 62 years. Kalaupapa was his home, and while loved his home and found peace there, he also found it to be at times very lonely and isolated. If not for his may friends that he (and we) considered family, my grandfather would not have survived the effects of total isolation and would have undoubtedly died from his disease. My grandfather truly was a special man – he was smart, funny, generous, loving but he had the most infectious laugh. I was grateful to have spent many years with him at his home on Kalauapapa. I loved taking care of him, listening to his stories, seeing how much he cared for his family and experiencing firsthand how much he, and all the people of Kalaupapa, preserved despite of their disabilities. Our family spans thousands of miles, and although I have been graced with my grandfather's love, many of his other grandchildren had not, and it is my duty to honor him by passing on his story to the rest of our family.

Kalaupapa and its history are a huge part of who I am and what I've become. The people, all of whom I consider my family, has in one way or another impacted my life, and they deserved to be honored as well. Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa is requesting that the State Legislature allocate \$5 million for construction of the Memorial. Ka 'Ohana is also raising \$5 million for an endowment to make sure the Memorial is maintained and cared for in perpetuity.

The Kalaupapa Memorial will remember and honor all the people of Kalaupapa by their name; will be a way to help preserve the legacies of thousands of men, women and children; and keep alive the important history of Kalaupapa.

I humbly ask for your support of SB 2796 to provide funding for The Kalaupapa Memorial.

Respectfully submitted, Lorna Catalani Icatalani1160@yahoo.com

SB-2796-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/24/2020 2:01:59 PM
Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cheryl Reeser	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in support of SB2796 SD1, funding \$5 million to support the Kalaupapa Memorial. I am the great, great granddaughter of a Kalaupapa patient who was banished to Kalaupapa for the remainder of her life, removed permanently from her loved-ones. In addition my late parents, Don and Bunnie Reeser, worked tirelessly to bring this memorial to fruition and honor the patients who were sent there as well as their families who experienced such loss.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Cheryl Kuulei Reeser

To:

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chairman
The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and
Member of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means



Hearing: February 25, 2020, 12:40 p.m... Room 211 Regarding SB 2796 Kalaupapa Memorial

Testimony in Support for The Kalaupapa Memorial; - SB2796

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee

My name is DeGray Vanderbilt. I am one of the founding member of Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa, an organization made up of residents from Kalaupapa, their extended family members and long-time friends of the Kalaupapa Community.

This testimony is a collaborative effort of members of the Kalaupapa Memorial team, who felt it was imperative to provide members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee (WAM) with specific information, which would show that the Memorial project is one that is ready to go, and not just a project that is just getting started.

We would also like to emphasize our desire to have the \$5,000,000 appropriation request contained in the initial draft of SB2796 introduced by Senate Majority Leader J. Kalani English be somehow again be referenced should SB2796 be approved. As such, we humbly request that as this measure moves forward, the requested amount of \$5,000,000 to construct the Memorial be noted in the committee report, and that discussions as to the most appropriate means of funding, including through the supplemental budget, be considered.

The original draft of the Bill called for an appropriation of \$5,000,000 "for the design, plans and construction" of the Memorial. At this date, the 'Ohana has completed most of the planning and has a final design for the Memorial as evidenced in the attached 10-page package of schematic drawings provided by G70 one of the most reputable and respected architectural firms in the State.

The \$5,000,000 requested will be dedicated fully to construction of the long overdue Memorial. The current estimated budgeted amount for construction has been developed through the collaborative effort of G70 and Goodfellow Brothers, a renowned contracting firm that has worked on several major projects at Kalaupapa and has been providing much needed assistance In bringing the Memorial to where it is today.

Other professional firms that have been responsible for the planning and design development of the Memorial include:

Munekiyo and Hiraga a major planning and project management consulting firm serving the entire State of Hawaii from its headquarters on Maui and a full-service office in Honolulu.

Umemoto Cassandro Design Corporation, a highly regarded landscape architecture firm headquartered on Oahu and serving projects through the State of Hawaii

R.M. Towill Corporation a multi-discipline engineering firm specializing in planning, civil engineering, survey/photogrammetry, construction management, and environmental service throughout the Pacific. They completed the topographic survey for the Memorial's site at Kalaupapa, a copy of which is enclosed in the attached package of schematic drawings put together by G70.

Stastny Architect LLC and principal Don Stastny, a major architectural firm based in Portland, Oregon that specializes, in part, to pre-construction design on such projects as the Oklahoma City Memorial and the Flight 93 Memorial, two major Memorial projects that the states of Oklahoma and Pennsylvania respectively contributed \$18,500,000 and \$5,000,000 to establish.

The intent of all those associated with the Memorial is to have it completed while there is still some of those being honored still living to witness its unveiling. The Memorial will list the names of all 8,000 Hawaii citizens separated from their families and sent to Kalaupapa. Of the approximate 8,000 individuals buried at Kalaupapa less than 1,000 have marked graves that can be identified.

The Memorial will provide a safe and fitting place for family members to reflect and find closure, and insure that names of all those who contributed to this important Chapter in Hawaii's history will never be forgotten.

The Memorial team would also like to thank all of the Senators who came to greet Kalaupapa residents Clarence "Boogie" Kahilihiwa, Pauline Chow and Gloria Lutu Marks when they visited the Capitol on February 11 to testify before the LCA Committee. All three are members of the Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa Board of Directors. I have enclosed a picture Boogie holding a picture of the Memorial's final design and a photo of himself with Pauline in the middle and Gloria on the right. They are three of the last 12 Hawaii citizens authorized to live at Kalaupapa. Time is of the essence to complete the Memorial.

In conclusion, once again we humbly request that as this measure moves forward, that the requested amount of \$5,000,000 to construct the Memorial be noted in the committee report, and that discussions as to the most appropriate means of funding, including through the supplemental budget, be considered.

Respectfully submitted

DeGray Vander tott

DeGray Vanderbilt



111 S. King Street February 24, 2020

Suite 170 Honolulu, HI 96813 808.523.5866

www.g70.design Clarence "Boogie" Kahilihiwa, President Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa P.O. Box 1111 Kalaupapa, Hawai'i 96742

Aloha Mr. Kahilihiwa:

G70 is pleased to provide you with a rendering of the final Memorial design along with a 10-page set of schematic drawings for the Memorial.

We hope this information is helpful when Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa supporters appear tomorrow before the Senate Ways and Means Committee to seek approval of the \$5,000,000 being requested to construct the long overdue Kalaupapa Memorial and that the information also is helpful in convincing the legislators that the Memorial project is one that is ready to go. The \$5,000,000 figure is current estimated project construction budget figure developed by the project contractor Goodfellow Brothers in collaboration with our G70 team.

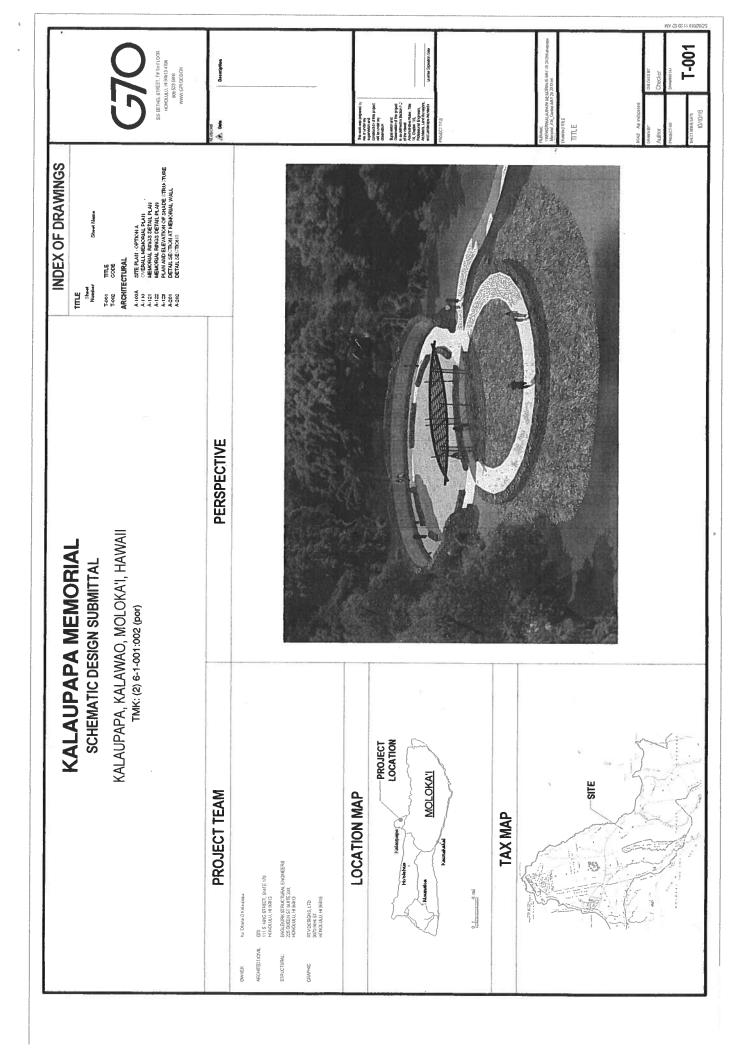
Please let us know if you need our firm to provide any additional information.

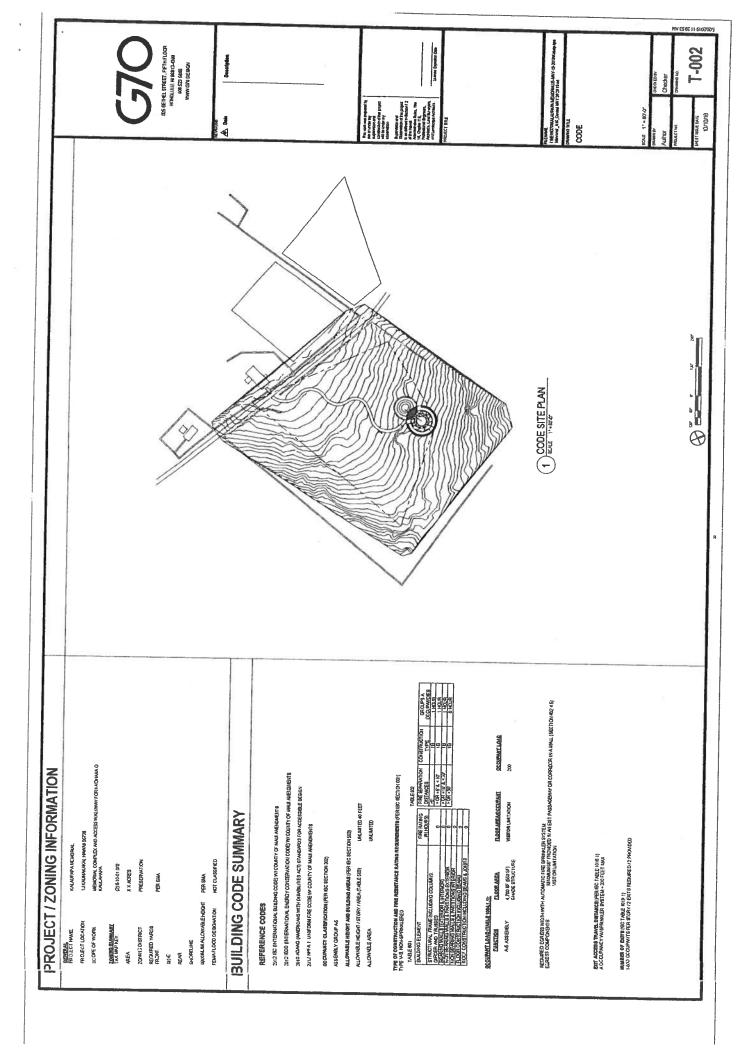
Sincerely,

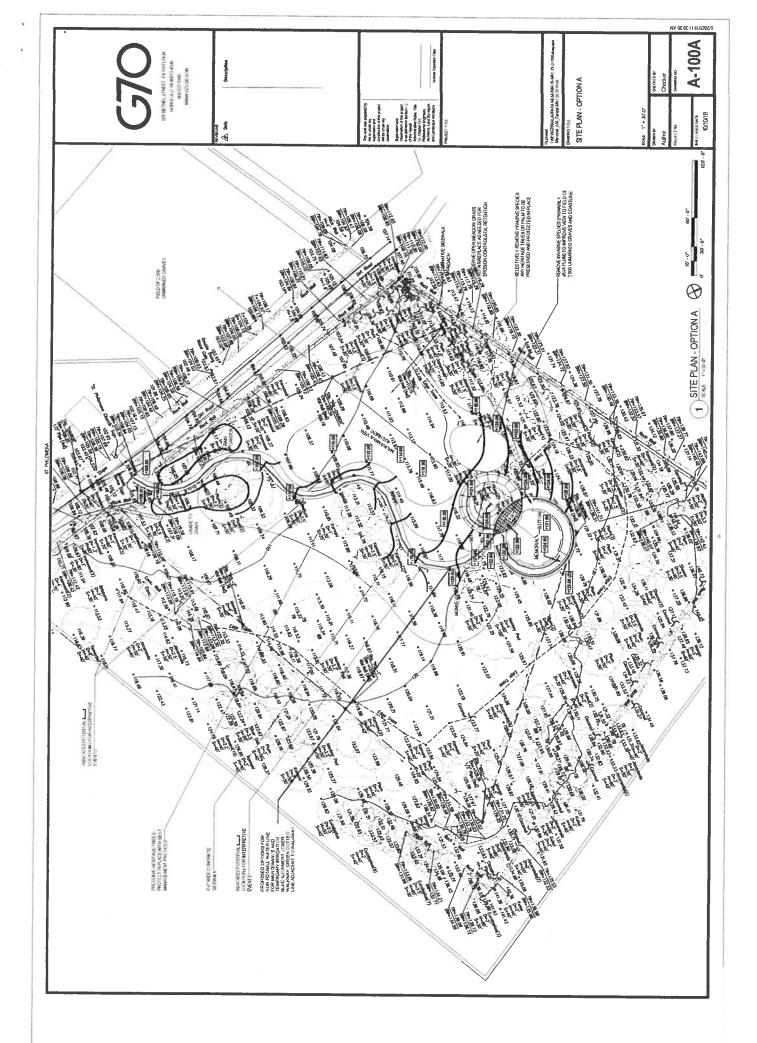
GROUP 70 INTERNATIONAL, INC., dba G70

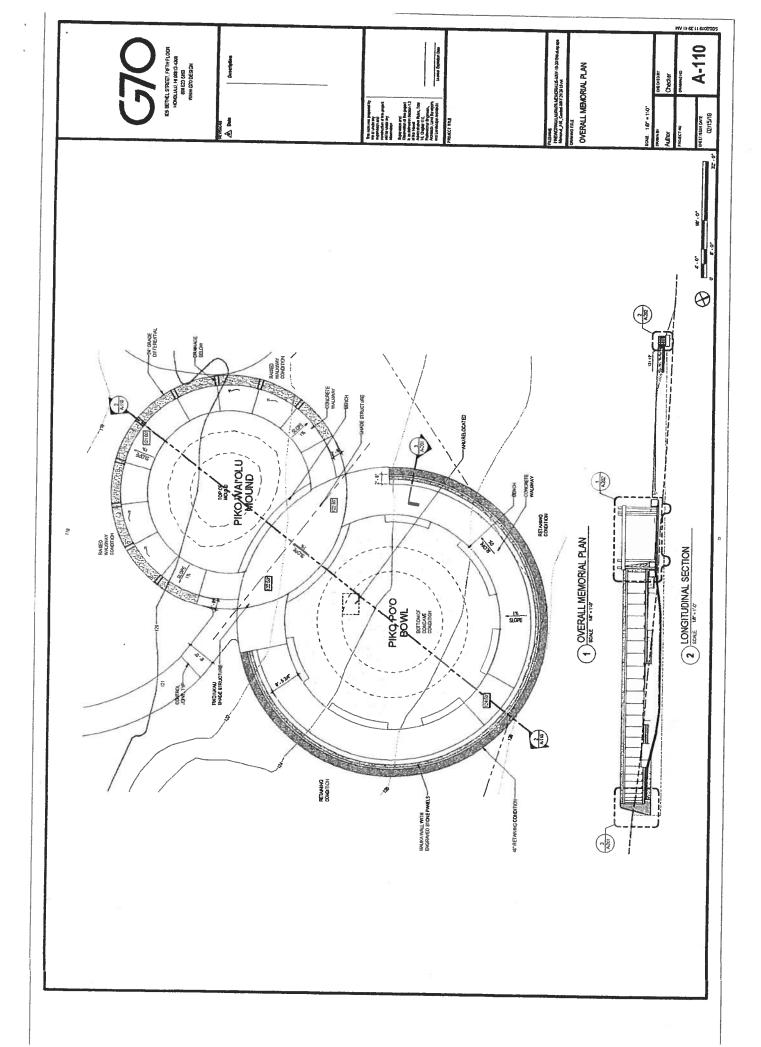
Kawika McKeague, AICP

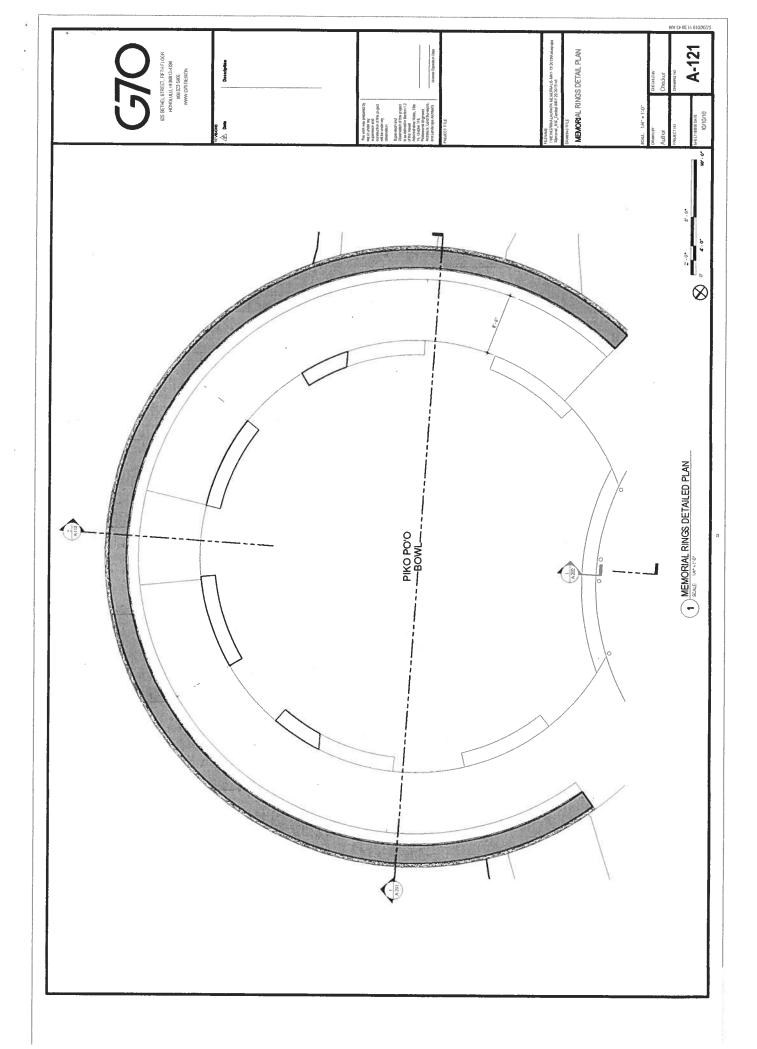
Principal

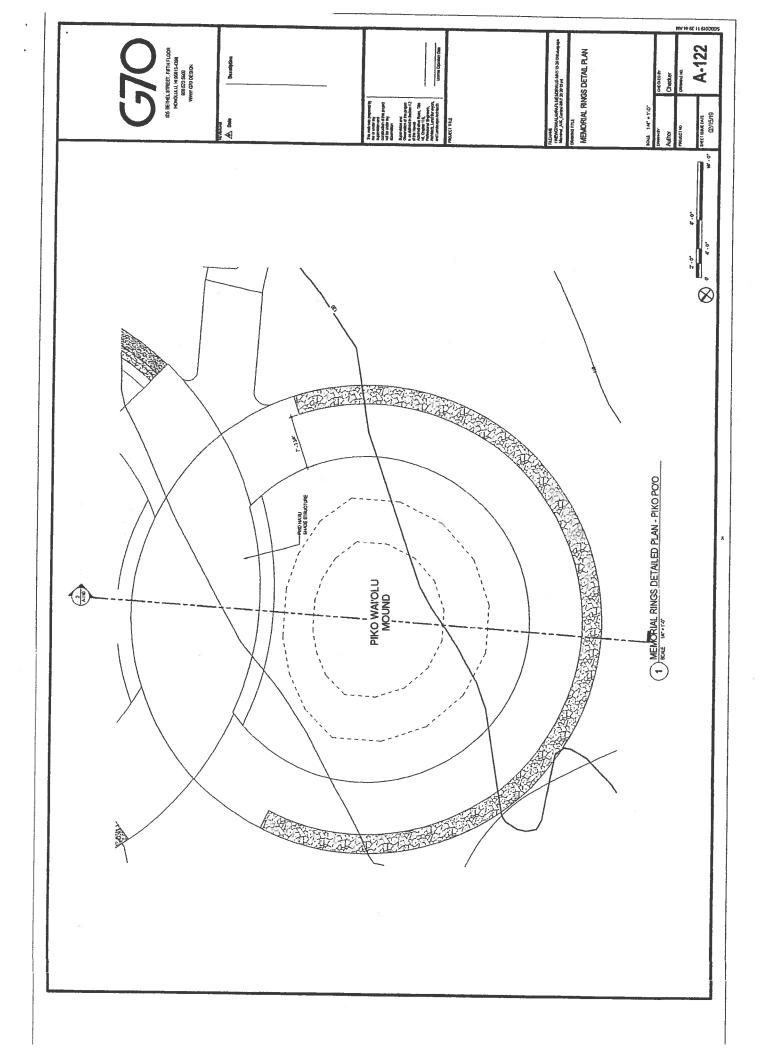


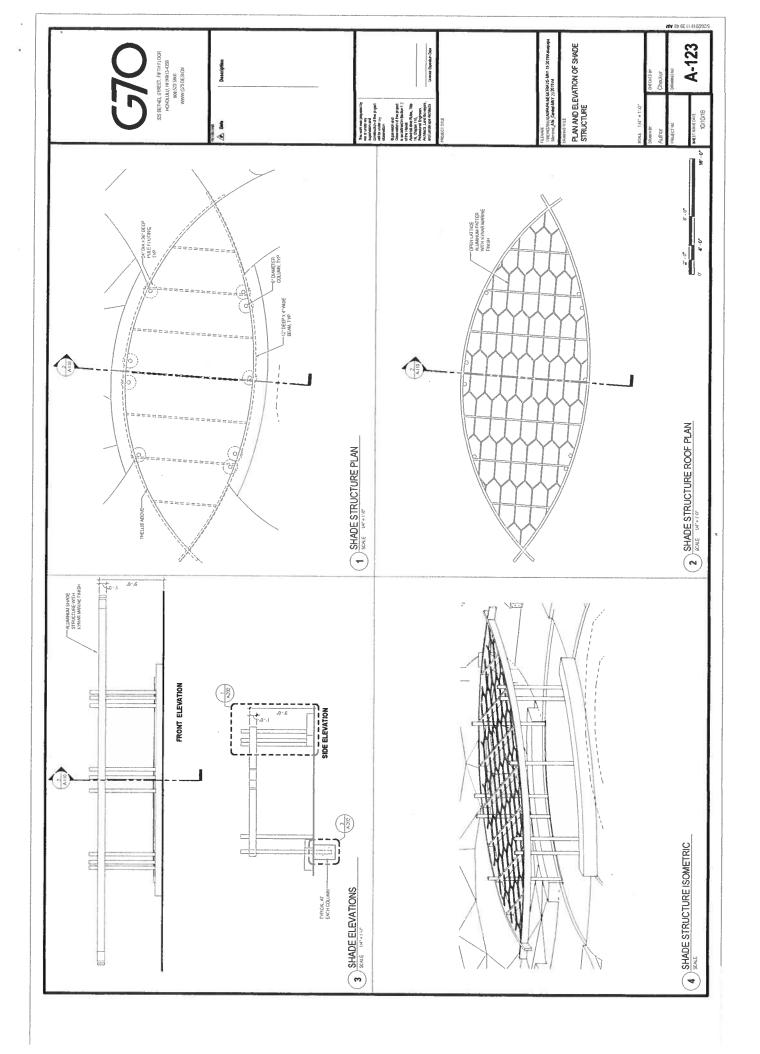


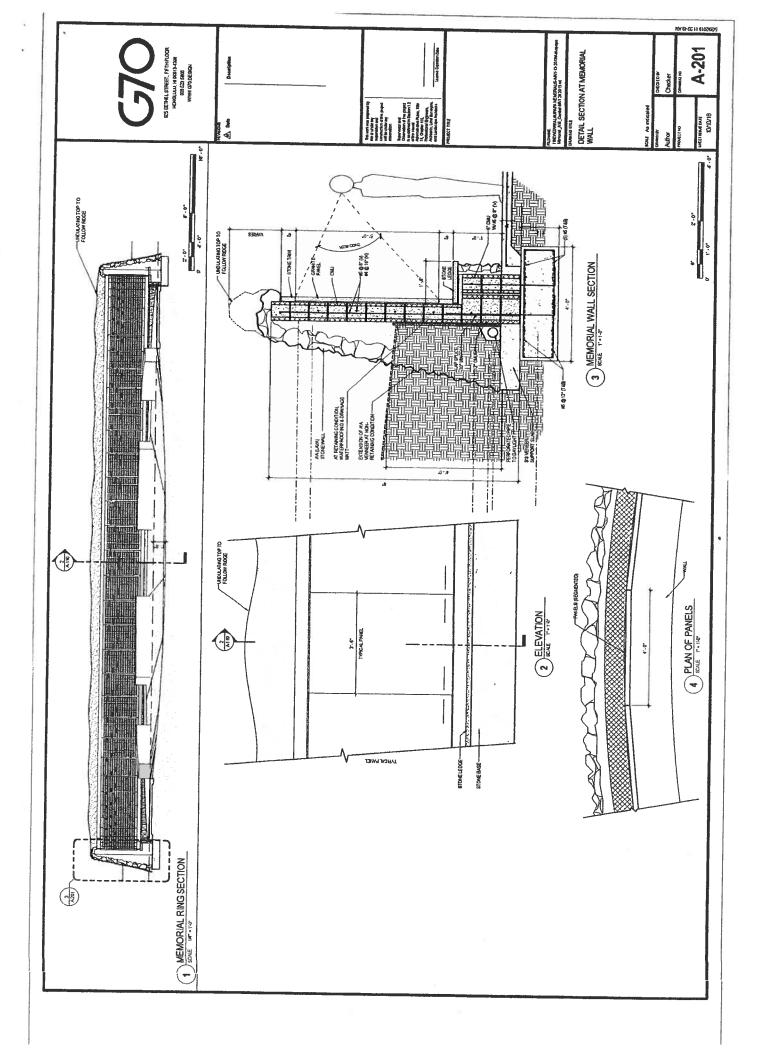


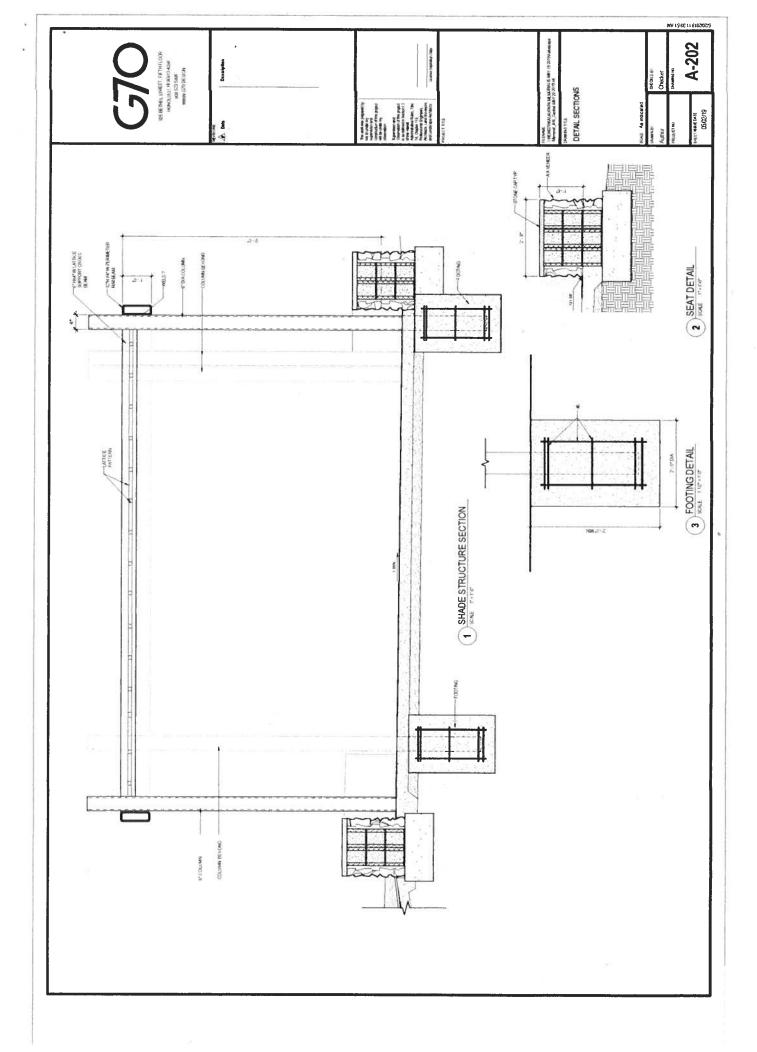


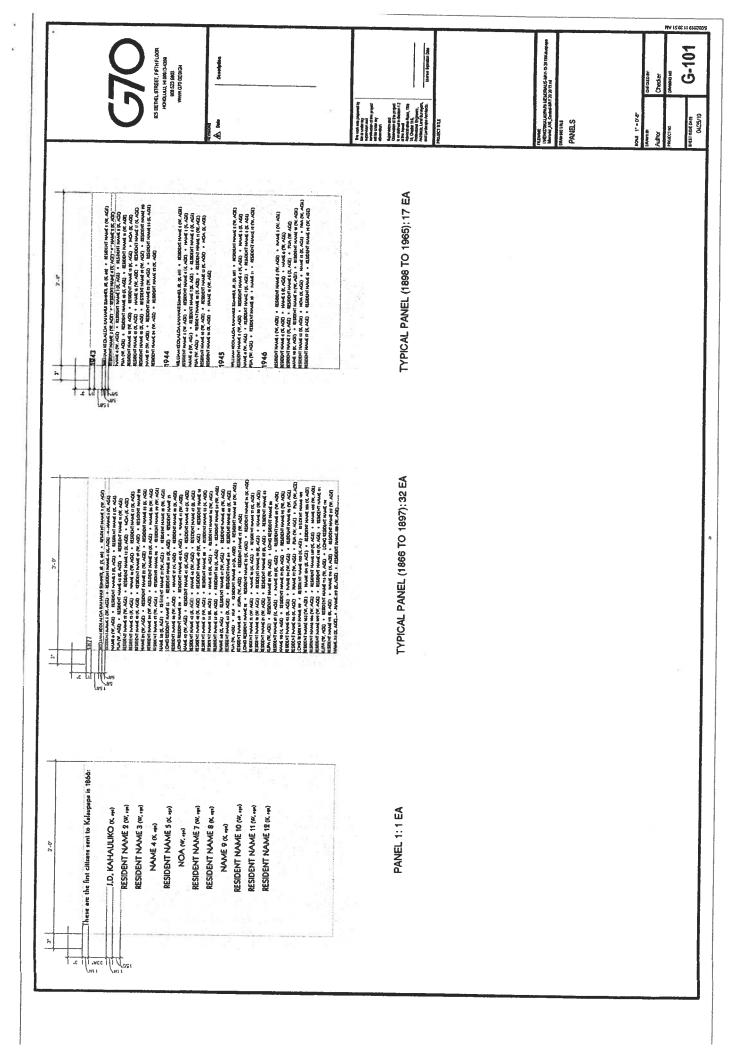






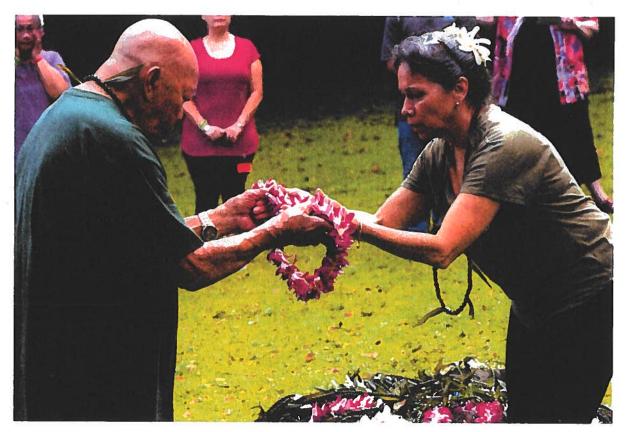








"E Ho'ohanohano a E Ho'omau... ... To Honor and To Perpetuate"



Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa President Clarence "Boogie" Kahilihiwa passes a lei to Momilani Motta Cheek during a ho'okupu ceremony to remember all those who have died at Kalaupapa. *Photo by Henry Law*



Kalaupapa resident John Arruda surrounded by friends, including Phil Hatori. *Photo by Anwei Law*

"You Have to Know Their Names"

When 70 residents, family members and friends of Kalaupapa walked into McVeigh Hall on a sunny August morning in 2003, no one really knew what to expect. For the next two days, concerns about Kalaupapa were aired, ideas for solutions were shared and all voices were heard.

By the close of that inspirational weekend of camaraderie and common goals, Ka'Ohana O Kalaupapa was born. Our mission: "E Ho'ohanohano a E Ho'omau.... To Honor and To Perpetuate."

Continued on page 6

The Kalaupapa Memorial: Getting Closer

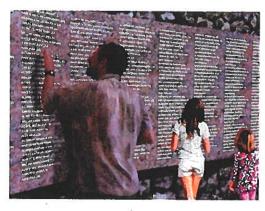


hen Kalaupapa residents, their extended family members and long time friends officially formed in 2003, one of the first things residents asked was that the Ohana prioritize the establishment of The Kalaupapa Memorial. After President Barack Obama signed federal legislation that authorized Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa to establish the Memorial, the 'Ohana has spent years of planning and working on the required compliance and other tasks needed to build the Memorial and maintain it. Recent key occurrences in moving the Memorial forward include:

- The Board of Land and Natural Resources unanimously issued an approval of the 'Ohana's final Environmental Assessment, praising the Design of the Memorial.
- A strong group of professionals has offered to lead the final planning and construction processes to complete the Memorial. These include G70, a

highly regarded architectural and engineering firm which helped create the Memorial Design, and Goodfellow Bros., a seasoned contractor with construction experience on major projects at Kalaupapa. They will work with our 'Ohana Memorial Committee that includes family members and cultural specialists.

- The 'Ohana's historian has compiled nearly 7,300 of the estimated 8,000 names that will be displayed on the Memorial. Hawaiian language specialists and family members are providing assistance with regard to the spellings.
- Islander Institute led an inspiring strategic planning retreat at Kalaupapa for the 'Ohana Board of Directors on creating a plan through October, 2020.
- Grant Works Hawaii, an experienced fundraising consulting firm, has joined the 'Ohana to



Artist renderings by G70

coordinate the development of a major fundraising campaign to secure financing for the construction of the Memorial and the establishment of an endowment to insure the care and operations of the Memorial in perpetuity.

In the next few months, we will be letting everyone know how each of you can be part of making the dream of so many Kalaupapa residents come true. It's an exciting time!

Message from our President

Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa Board of Directors

Clarence "Boogie" Kahllihiwa

President

Pauline Ahulau Chow Vice President

Charmaine Woodward
Secretary

Kalei Dagulo Treasurer

Gloria Marks

Sister Davilyn Ah Chick Director

> Kalei Dagulo Director

Lopaka Ho'opi'i

DeGray Vanderbilt

Director

Patria Weston Director

Jason Umemoto

Director

Valerie Monson Executive Director

In Memoriam

Bernard K. Punikai'a Chairman of the Board, 2004-2009

Kuulei Bell President, 2004-2009

Our masthead was designed by Kalaupapa artist Henry Nalaielua. Newsletter editor: Valerie Monson Design: Yellowbird Graphic Design

Ka 'Ohana O Kalaupapa P.O. Box 1111 Kalaupapa, Hawai'i 96742

email: info@kalaupapaohana.org www.kalaupapaohana.org ©2018 Ka'Ohana O Kalaupapa



Boogie Kahilihiwa welcomes 'Ohana leaders to the 2018 annual meeting. *Photo by Henry Law*

Mahalo.

We don't say it enough—and yet where would we be without all of you who have supported us over the years in so many different ways?

When Ka'Ohana O Kalaupapa organized in 2003, we did not realize what we would be starting. I was one of those 70 people who gathered in McVeigh Hall to share our collective thoughts about improving life at Kalaupapa. We had no blueprint of our plans, no experienced consultants to direct us—and no money behind us.

We were brought together simply by our love and respect for the people of Kalaupapa — those still with us physically as well as thousands more

who have died, but who remain with us spiritually. We wanted to make sure the voices of Kalaupapa would always be heard.

Since that time, the 'Ohana has advocated for the people of Kalaupapa when issues arise. We have helped more than 800 descendants reconnect to their Kalaupapa ancestors, visited schools across Hawai'i, developed traveling exhibits that have appeared on every island and made significant progress toward establishment of The Kalaupapa Memorial.

None of these programs would have been possible without those of you who are reading this message. Your generous donations enabled us to turn our ideas into reality.

You believed in us when it would have been easy not to do so—when we were united by a cause, but without a real plan—and we hope you continue to believe in us.

Together, all of us will make sure the people of Kalaupapa are remembered by their names and in their own words. We will continue to help more descendants learn about their family members who were sent to Kalaupapa. We will continue to spread the inspiring message of Kalaupapa throughout Hawai'i and beyond.

Mahalo to each of you. We can't say it enough.



Are you looking for an ancestor at Kalaupapa?

The 'Ohana wants to hear from you so we can help. Hopefully, we can provide information that should get you on the path to finding any ancestors you might have had at Kalaupapa. The 'Ohana believes that the descendants of Kalaupapa are one of our organization's greatest strengths.

Please contact us at **info.kalaupapa@gmail.com** and let us help you bring home your Kalaupapa ancestors. They are not lost... they are waiting for you,

<u>SB-2796-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/25/2020 1:05:04 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/25/2020 12:40:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rayne	Individual	Support	No

Comments: