

Objective

To be selected as a member of the Early Learning Board of the State of Hawai'i

Experience Summary

- More than 24 years of direct involvement in serving and working with Native Hawaiian communities.
- Developed under the leadership of and benefitted by a direct working relationship with the CEO of Kamehameha Schools, Jack Wong, elevating my leadership experiences and understanding.
- Fifteen years of leadership and supervisory experience
- Extensive experience in recommending and providing strategies for community and government relations, lobbying & policies, communications plans, issues management and general community engagement.
- Skilled in monitoring and convening community to collectively strategize around federal, state, and local legislative issues
- Adept in meeting facilitation and Ho'oponopono (*conflict resolution*)
- Competent in Hawaiian language, culture, and practices and knowledgeable of application and importance to Hawai'i's communities
- Eight years of ministry leadership experience and three years of rigorous pastoral leadership training

Professional Experience

12/2015 – 10/2023

Government Relations Director – Kamehameha Schools

- Direct the Government Relations team in advancing Kamehameha's advocacy strategies and strengthening community relationships.
- Direct the Government Relations Division initiatives to garner community support for KS' legislative and community efforts and vice-versa.
- Ensure that relationships and engagement with key stakeholder groups in the community, the government and Hawaiian-serving organizations are thriving and aligned with KS' mission and brand.
- Work closely with the CEO to direct Kamehameha's government relations function and manage the decision making of the Government Relations Committee (executives) to drive and focus organizational strategies; provide executive reports on community advocacy and government actions.
- Ensure the coordination of cross-functional teams throughout the organization to gather a broad range of thoughts and input; assess and propose strategies and positions, as proposed by cross-functional teams, on relevant topics of legislation to promote and address community needs.
- Create an environment that promotes collective community action and advocacy for issues that impact the people of Hawai'i.
- Lobby on behalf of and direct all lobbying activities of Kamehameha Schools, including strategizing to mitigate risks, identify opportunities, and achieve organizational goals for a thriving lāhui Hawai'i.
- Serve as the liaison between Kamehameha and key Native Hawaiian-serving organizations, government and community entities.
- Set organizational standards and frameworks for shared goals, communication, information-sharing and transparency.
- Present and facilitate executive leadership discussions related to strategic analysis, challenges and issues that impede or provide opportunity for strategic progress.
- Provide consulting to senior executives, internal clients and, upon direction, to KS trustees.

Achievements/Highlights

- **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Over the past three years, I created and convened a hui of more than 30 Native Hawaiian organizations to collectively strategize on legislative issues impacting Native Hawaiians and Hawai'i. We gathered to support the legislative priorities of each organization and submit testimony on issues that impact the lives of Hawai'i's people. Since the establishment of the Native Hawaiian Legislative Hui, we've successfully created joint letters, testimonies and efforts of support that successfully secured and increased funding for Native Hawaiians and Hawai'i, demonstrated the solidarity of the Native Hawaiian organizations, secured consensus of Native Hawaiian serving organizations, supported the leadership of Hawai'i's Congressional Delegation, and spurred positive feedback and hope in the future of our Native Hawaiian community.

- **EARLY LEARNING:** At the end of 2019 and in the 2020 legislative session, my priority was to advocate for a Universal Public Preschool system in Hawai'i. I successfully supported the writing of, advocacy for, and enactment of Act 46 collectively with Native Hawaiian serving organizations, business leaders and state government leaders.
- **EARLY LEARNING FUNDING:** In 2022, my priority during the legislative session was to advocate for the enactment of Act 257, which appropriated \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the School Facilities Authority (SFA) to expand access to pre-kindergarten to eligible children of the State of Hawai'i, as identified in Act 46. I achieved my goal with the collective help of business and state leaders and the support of members of the Native Hawaiian Legislative Hui.
- **STUDENT CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:** Our team's goal is to increase civic engagement in Hawai'i and our strategy is to start with the youth. In school year 2019-2020, while other senior students around the nation were coordinating school "walkouts", Kamehameha Schools seniors had a pre-planned fieldtrip to vote and be civically engaged due to the efforts of my team. Because of this effort, Kamehameha Schools' students ended up in CNN's online publication, bringing positive attention to Hawai'i.

07/13 – 12/15

Integrated Strategies Manager - Endowment & Community Engagement - Kamehameha Schools

- Plan communications and outreach strategies and tactics to garner public and stakeholder support for KS initiatives.
- Manage a communications team to drive communications strategies for Kamehameha Schools' Endowment Group and the newly created Community Engagement and Resources Group (CER) in 2015.
- Provide communication consultation to support entitlements and permitting processes for different commercial real estate and agricultural projects – Hale'iwa Store Lots, Waiawa Solar project, Hawaii Kai rezoning, and Kaka'ako Master Plan approvals.
- Provide strategies for change management approaches to help staff, divisions and the organization transition to a new strategic plan.
- Manage communications and community outreach budget.
- Draft communications plans inclusive of key messaging, strategies, and tactics.
- Drive communications of KS' re-organization efforts in consultation with clients; determine strategies and ensure leadership and staff are well informed of roles, talking points, and Q&A.
- Identify and consult clients on best practices for integrated community outreach and communications planning and implementation.
- Provide crisis and issues management services.
- Media relations

02/07 – 07/13

Community Relations Specialist - Commercial Real Estate – Kamehameha Schools

- Facilitate all cultural consultation meetings with lineal and cultural descendants of Kaka'ako; acted as a liaison between KS and the Kaka'ako cultural stakeholders (lineal and cultural descendants); managed communication with Kaka'ako lineal and cultural descendants.
- Coordinate and facilitate meetings of the Kaka'ako Community Alliance – a group created by KS comprised of large and small Kaka'ako landowners, business owners and other stakeholders with mutual interests in preventing legislative and regulatory exactions on Kaka'ako properties.
- Support the Commercial Group in gaining HCDA approval for KS' Kaiāulu 'o Kaka'ako Master Plan.
- Contribute to legislative discussions and community outreach efforts to mitigate harmful legislative outcomes.
- Manage all integrated communications efforts of KS' corporate strategic planning SP 2020 efforts; provided outreach and communications strategies, wrote talking points and presentation scripts for KS' executive leadership incorporating key messages; executed national outreach to Native Hawaiian communities.
- Implemented communications efforts that integrated public relations, community relations, video production, design and production of materials and websites, advertising, marketing, article writing and strategic placement of articles to promote awareness of KS land-related initiatives.

10/01 - 02/07

Program Manager – Hui Mālama o ke Kai a program of UHM's John A. Burns School of Medicine

- Create a youth leadership development curriculum steeped in Hawaiian values and oversee its delivery.
- Design and implement approaches to monitor and evaluate student and program progress.

- Supervise professional and paraprofessional employees and community volunteers in daily program delivery of a youth leadership development curriculum steeped in Native Hawaiian cultural values and practices.
- Oversee program service budget and manage program spending.
- Work with community organizations, including schools, libraries and businesses to deliver youth leadership development experiences.
- Prepare comprehensive quarterly reports on the progress of students and means of progress.

Education **University:** *B.A. in Communications*, University of Hawaii at Hilo
High School: Aiea High School

Leadership Training

- Pastoral Leadership Forum – New Hope Leeward, Waipahu, HI** *01/11 – 11/13*
- This three-year course is offered by invite only and is designed to develop current and future leaders via secular and orthodox leadership teaching and principles. After the leadership forum is completed, graduates are certified to serve, lead and provide pastoral support to the home church and others as representatives of New Hope Leeward. Training courses involve mandatory, ongoing monthly meetings, blogging, reading, report writing and a 100-hour practicum.
- Board Member Training – Trained by Glenn Miyataki** *02/21 and 04/24*
- This multiple day long course, provided by Glenn Miyataki, offers training on how to serve as a board member of non-profits, awareness of kuleana relating to governance, policies, decision making, fundraising, relationship building and overseeing organizations.
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Volunteer Work

- Ministry Overseer – Inspire Church** *2017 – 2020*
- Support youth ministry leader in organizing youth classrooms and volunteer needs
- Ministry Coach – New Hope Leeward** *10/12 – 6/16*
- Attend ongoing leadership development training related to the development and coaching of leaders.
 - Nurture ongoing relationships and coach women who serve as small group leaders in the church.
 - Equip and develop each leader so they can facilitate and manage small groups effectively.
 - Minister to and edify each leader in a way that will help them reach their leadership and small group goals.
 - Support and encourage the growth and development of each leader to transform them into confident and competent coaches.
- Youth Ministry Volunteer – New Hope Leeward** *04/09 – 10/12*
- Develop and implement lesson plans for middle school children about their faith, individual value and leadership potential.
 - Support New Hope West Coast Homeless Ministry in creating a plan for a new youth service program; act as a consultant for youth ministry planning, curriculum development, ministry structure and delivery support for homeless youth in Makahā.
- Youth Ministry Leader - New Hope Hawaii Kai** *11/07 – 04/09*
- Lead the 5th and 6th-grade ministry; coordinate schedules, oversee the planning of community events, prioritize budget.
 - Develop ministry curriculum and provide all lesson plans to be implemented by the team and myself.
 - Assign tasks and job duties, according to talent, to others on a ministry team.
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Community Involvement

- 11/18 - present*
- Board of Directors – Hui Mālama o ke Kai Youth Leadership Development Program**
- Board Vice Chair
- Board of Directors - Ma'i Movement Hawai'i**
- Board Chair

Board Member – Aloha Stadium Authority

07/20 – present

Native Hawaiian Civic Club – King Kamehameha Hawaiian Civic Club

09/19 – present

Ka ‘Ahaui Siwila Hawai‘i ‘o Kapōlei

10/12 – 12/18

- Participate in club meetings to plan and draft resolutions that support the advancement of Native Hawaiians
- Identify policies necessary for Native Hawaiian advancement to be discussed and introduced at the State Legislature.
- Fundraise: volunteer at various events to fundraise for civic club scholarship funds