

Leelen Park

EXPERIENCE

Executive Director

(2025-Present)

Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Hawai'i, Hilo, Hawai'i

- Lead and oversee a 50+ member board to advance the Chamber's mission and initiatives.
- Manage a membership base of 350+ individuals, representing 280+ businesses across Hawai'i Island.
- Direct membership growth, fundraising efforts, and volunteer recruitment to sustain and expand Chamber activities.
- Develop strategic partnerships and engagement opportunities to strengthen the local business community.
- Organize and execute key events, including networking functions, educational programs, and fundraising initiatives.
- To drive economic development and foster collaboration between local businesses, government, and community organizations.

Executive Director

(2024-Present)

North Kohala Community Resource Center, Hawi, Hawai'i

- Oversees a team of four (4) staff members, providing guidance, support, and direction to ensure the effective functioning of the organization.
- Manages an annual budget of \$800,000, ensuring fiscal responsibility and adherence to financial goals.
- Develops and implements donor stewardship strategies to engage and retain donors, including personalized communication, recognition, and cultivation efforts.
- Acts as a liaison between the organization and the community, representing NKCRC's mission, values, and interests in various forums and events.
- Collaborates with the board of directors and key stakeholders to develop long-term strategic goals and objectives.

Director of Development

(2023-2024)

The Food Basket Inc., Hilo, Hawai'i

- Began developing a \$134 million capital campaign, executing strategic fundraising initiatives to meet and exceed financial goals.
- Built and maintained strong relationships with donors, corporate partners, and community stakeholders, effectively communicating the organization's mission and impact.

- Collaborated with the development department to develop innovative fundraising strategies, including major gifts, corporate sponsorships, grants, and events.
- Implemented data-driven approaches to identify and cultivate potential donors, significantly increasing donor engagement and support.
- Tracked and analyzed campaign progress, regularly reporting to senior leadership and the board of directors.

Director of Community Engagement and Innovation (2022-2023)
The Food Basket Inc., Hilo, Hawai‘i

- Facilitated and led a media campaign that raised nearly \$100,000 to assist The Food Basket in purchasing food.
- Engaged with community stakeholders to drive innovation and enhance community involvement.

Deputy Director of Healthy Food Access Initiative (2021-2022)
The Food Basket Inc., Hilo, Hawai‘i

- Helped provide leadership for the DA BUX program, a program that provides a 50% discount to SNAP customers for locally-grown fresh produce.
- Managed logistics for program activities, including office setup, volunteer coordination, and nutrition education programs.
- Helped develop and implemented the Kaukau 4 Keiki program, providing fresh produce and grocery store gift cards to over 1,700 Hawai‘i Island public school families.

COVID-19 Emergency Response Project Manager (2020-2021)
The Food Basket Inc., Hilo, Hawai‘i

- Led the emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic, organizing and managing community food distributions.
- Designed and implemented drive-thru ‘Ohana Food Drops (OHD) to distribute food to many individuals, serving over 300,000 and conducting over 170 distributions.
- Managed food distribution logistics, ensuring uninterrupted supply chains and timely delivery to communities in need. Coordinated procurement and inventory and collaborated with partners for efficient operations.

Development Manager (2019-2020)
Bay Clinic, Inc., Hilo, Hawai‘i

- Managed the development department, coordinating promotional campaigns and securing grant funding.
- Planned and coordinated National Health Center Week, showcasing the clinic’s services and supporting the homeless population.

District Director (2015-2019)

Aloha Council, Hawai‘i Island

- Managed a district, achieving financial, membership, program, and volunteer goals.
- Provided leadership and training for volunteer leaders and oversaw the operations of the annual Summer Camp.

District Executive

(2011-2015)

Aloha Council, North Hawai‘i, and West Hawai‘i

- Served as a liaison between volunteers and the council, ensuring goal attainment in membership, funding, and volunteer engagement.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) in Secondary Education, (2008-2010)
The University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, Honolulu, Hawai‘i

Technology Education Courses, (2006-2008)
Honolulu Community College, Honolulu, Hawai‘i

Culinary Arts Courses, (2003-2006)
Kapiolani Community College, Honolulu, Hawai‘i

High School Diploma, (Graduated: 2003)
Kohala High School, Kapaau, Hawai‘i

TRAINING

- Hawai‘i Community Foundation – Hawai‘i Emergency Preparedness Cohort (Spring 2022)
- One Shared Future – Cohort Six (Fall 2019)
- People Management Training Module 1 (Spring 2016)
- Professional Development Training Modules 3 and 2 (Spring 2015 and 2013)
- Professional Development Training Module 1 (Spring 2011)
- National Camp School Training (Spring 2011)

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Eagle Scout Award, Boy Scouts of America (April 2002)
Vigil Honor, Order of the Arrow, BSA (June 2002)
Founder’s Award, Order of the Arrow, BSA (2005)

SKILLS

- Fundraising and donor cultivation
- Relationship management
- Project and event coordination

- Database management
- Public speaking
- Managerial functions
- Leadership skills
- Computer skills (Windows and Mac OS, Microsoft Office, Google Applications, Adobe Creative Suite)

MEMBERSHIPS/BOARDS

Feed Hawai‘i – Kohala Food Hub Board of Directors – Vice President	(2024-Present)
Hawai‘i County Economic Opportunity Council (HCEOCC) Board of Directors	(2024-Present)
Japanese Community Association	(2023-Present)
Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce	(2023-Present)
Waimea Community Association Board of Directors	(2024-2025)
Japanese Chamber of Commerce Chair of Yan Kyari (Young Professionals) Co-Chair Taste of Hilo Committee Co-Chair Membership Committee Board of Directors	(2023-2025)
Hilo Crescent City Lions Club, Serving as President (2022-2024)	(2021-2025)
Hawai‘i Island Chamber of Commerce	(2010-2024)

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST