

AUGUST 2022

LĀNA'I PHASE 1 REPORT

Native Hawaiian Substance use
stakeholder meetings

Lāna'i i ke 'ehu o ke kai

*Lāna'i stands among the
sea sprays*

O.N. 1945



Papa Ola Lokahi
Nana I Ka Pono Na Ma



KA PAHUHOPU (GOAL)

The Native Hawaiian Substance Use Stakeholder Meetings engaged stakeholders' in a virtual huaka'i of minds, hearts, and na'au to describe and unpack what Native Hawaiian lifeways could and should look like across the continuum of care in substance use services. Meetings were conducted for each mokupuni to harness and harvest the collective wisdom of stakeholders that have knowledge, lived experience and expertise specific to their own community needs.

LĀNA'I PROFILE

Although stakeholders from Lāna'i were unable to attend the phase 1 stakeholder meetings, it may be because community members feel apprehensive about speaking with "outsiders" not from Lāna'i, especially, about issues such as substance use. 98% of Lāna'i is privately owned by the Pūlama Company, a company owned by billionaire Larry Ellison. In many cases, Pūlama is both their employer and landlord. This unique situation creates increased barriers for those accessing care on the island. Therefore, extra time was needed to build pilina with representatives from Lāna'i who could provide insight into the island's concerns, strengths, and needs. We mahalo Makani Tabura, kama'āina of Lāna'i, and Auntie Shari Lynn of Ka Hale Pōmaika'i, who have both worked with the community to represent their interests. We hope this report can be the first step in uplifting the voice of Lāna'i, which is soft but heard. Lāna'i is home to a strong Filipino, vibrant Kosrie, and a thriving Native Hawaiian community, all intermingled with other ethnicities.

KŪKĀKŪKĀ PART I: TOP CONCERNS

Participants were asked to identify the top 2 concerns related to substance use among Native Hawaiians on Lānaʻi

DISTRIBUTION AND THE EASE OF AVAILABILITY

There are limited drug enforcement measures in place for Lānaʻi airport, as well as the state, county, and municipal harbors. With no TSA or other drug screening measures in place, the distribution of substances in and out of Lānaʻi has increased, making substances more accessible throughout the island.

LIMITED SERVICES & PROGRAMS

There are limited in-person programs and services available on Lānaʻi, especially those addressing substance prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction for youth and adults when compared to services on neighbor islands.

Many of those seeking treatment have to go off-island to find help, which causes further disconnection from 'ohana and the community.

KŪKĀKŪKĀ PART II: STRENGTHS

PARTICIPANTS WERE ASKED TO DESCRIBE THE WAIWAI, STRENGTHS, OF LĀNA'I'S NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY

Pilina (connections)

The Native Hawaiian Community makes up a smaller percentage of the entire Lānaʻi community. The strengths of the Native Hawaiian Community are the relationships with the entire community as a whole and an incredibly strong work ethic.

Ellison has generously embraced the island by improving the 'āina and providing micro-enterprise, jobs, housing, benefits, and a store that is well stocked.



KŪKĀKŪKĀ PART III:

COMMUNITY HEALING SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT

Participants explored and identified healing spaces available to Native Hawaiians seeking recovery and healing on Lānaʻi. Conversely, they were asked to communicate the need to fill gaps in order to provide appropriate community healing spaces to those seeking this type of support.

EXISTING SYSTEMS OF SUPPORT

It was expressed that Lānaʻi has limited “Healing” spaces for the community.

However, Lānaʻi does have:

- Lānaʻi Community Health Center
- Straub Medical Center - Lānaʻi Clinic
- Lānaʻi Community Hospital (Kaiser)
- Nā Puʻuwai, the Native Hawaiian Health Care System that serves Molokai & Lānaʻi with Native Hawaiian healthcare
- Coalition for A Drug-Free Lānaʻi provides prevention programs
- Ka Hale Pōmaikaʻi staff fly over from Molokai to provide recovery support groups and CSAC services as needed. (only org that provides groups & drug testing)
- Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center provides an ʻāina-based cultural literacy program, every summer since 2012

NEEDS AND GAPS

The needs and gaps in this section will be synthesized with the cultural approaches needs and gaps discussion in the next session in order to avoid duplication and provide a broader and more inclusive understanding of what is required across the continuum of care ahupuaʻa.

However, space is very limited and many of the programs mentioned above either already share space or are unable to share. In many cases, they are operating out of a single room.

Many of the organizations above only offer services to their enrolled members and also do not provide peer or 12 step groups.



KŪKĀKŪKĀ PART IV: NEEDS & GAPS FOR CULTURAL APPROACHES TO SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES

NEED FOR SERVICES THAT "MAKE SENSE" TO THE COMMUNITY

There is a need for services that "make sense" to the community. The Lānaʻi community expressed a need for programs that they can better identify with as far as ethnicity and culture.

Lānaʻi has an ethnically diverse community that is tight-knit with 'ohana that have lived there for generations.

NEED FOR RECOVERY FRIENDLY WORK PLACE

A challenge to Pūlama is to also generously provide confidential spaces for services that are missing in the community, such as confidential peer and fellowship group space. Pūlama could work hand in hand with the community and even develop recovery-friendly work policies that provide employee assistance programs so employees can address any behavioral health needs, confidentially, and without penalty of termination.

As Pūlama is often both employer and landlord, there is a large barrier put on finding help. How can one find help in a small community, when services cannot be obtained confidentially because of how limited space is, and everyone is operating out of the same space? How can you tell your boss you are using substances and need help without getting fired?

Participants articulated the needs and gaps in Hawaiian cultural approaches for substance use services across the continuum of care ahupua'a.

NEED FOR CSAC'S & PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

There is a need for CSACs (Certified Substance Abuse Counselors). Currently, CSACs must be flown into Lānaʻi for services.

Covid wiped out many places to meet. Rent on a small office with no privacy for confidential services can cost \$800+.

It was identified that there have been youth prevention programs and workshops, however, there are limited programs or classes for adults or families.

Substance use disorder is a family disease that does not only affect the individual who struggles with this disease. Thus, there is a need to address healing among all age groups and the impact of substance use on the whole family, and the utilization of appropriate interventions for holistic healing.



NEED FOR TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE

When in dire need of treatment off-island, it is a huge personal expense. Only Mokulele offers service to and from Lānaʻi and has monopoly on transportation. There is a ferry that goes to and from Maui. However, the port location also presents an additional transportation hardship to get to the treatment locations on Maui.

It is difficult to tell someone with substance use issues to get on a long ferry ride and navigate the additional transportation to the treatment center while dealing with the internal struggles that battling addiction requires.

NEED FOR INCREASED PILINA WITH PŪLAMA

Pūlama, as the main employer on island, invites allegiance in employees. However, increased pilina with Pūlama and the community in providing safe, judgment-free, and confidential spaces and pathways to overcome addiction without losing their job, housing, or the ability to buy food as these are interlinked because Pūlama owns 98% of the island.

The biggest roadblocks are transportation (Mokulele and/or car) and having confidential space to get treatment or find recovery on-island.

Pūlama flies their own private airplanes for their 4 seasons guests only. Seats on this reliable transportation could be provided to behavioral health/addiction professionals so that they could provide more services on-island. Pūlama could also designate lowcost, private space for services. This pilina would improve the livelihood of their employees by keeping them happy and healthy.

We invite Pūlama company to join in the fight against stigma and addiction!



KŪKĀKŪKĀ PART V: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

As a means to address the aforementioned gaps, participants were asked to identify professional development activities to effectively integrate Hawaiian culture into the continuum of care. The following focus areas were identified as the main themes for professional development towards this end.

INCREASING CULTURAL SAFETY

Due to Lānaʻi's unique and tense situation as a primarily privately owned island with extremely limited substance use prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction services, it is vital that the existing and newly developed services are provided through culturally safe and culturally resonant practices that speak to the diverse community of Lānaʻi.

As the Native Hawaiian community makes up a smaller percentage of the entire Lānaʻi community, it is important to acknowledge and uplift the need for approaches that address and serve the multi-ethnic, local Lānaʻi community. The following activities were identified as the essential elements to create this preferred future.

Cultural Safety Training:

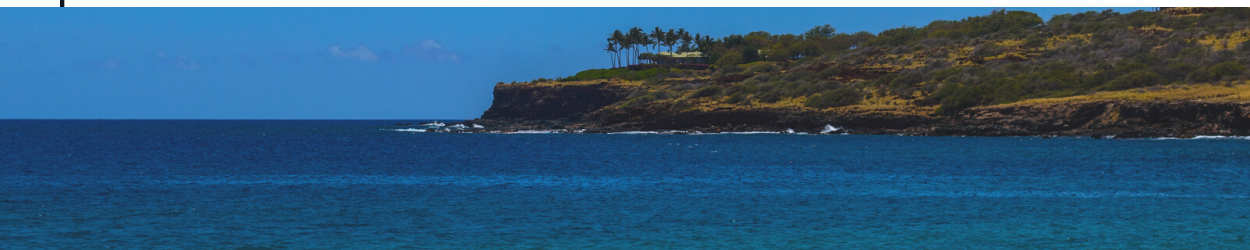
- Dissemination of education & training to service providers to understand cultural, historical, and intergenerational trauma and its impact on health and wellbeing.
- Including measures to reduce the stigma surrounding SUD, which is commonly a coping strategy to deal with trauma as previously described.

Targeted recruitment of a local Lānaʻi workforce

- Provide career pathways for Lānaʻi practitioners to secure professions at various levels within the substance use continuum of care.

Partner with Cultural Practitioners

- Partner with cultural practitioners from the community to weave cultural aspects into professional development



NEXT STEPS

Native Hawaiians have and will always be keen and insightful data stewards about the natural world and the interconnected relationships that exist between k̄naka, 'āina and spirituality. This share back report frames a set of priorities and recommendations that lift up this data manifested through the voices of stakeholders that come from Native Hawaiian communities and providers that serve k̄naka in addressing substance use on Lāna'i. Papa Ola Lōkahi will utilize the gathered data to support the development of a Hawaiian culture-based continuum of care system that serves the best interests and needs of Native Hawaiians.

While Lāna'i's voices are soft.....We are listening.



Papa Ola Lōkahi
Nana I Ka Pono Na Ma

**Lāna'i i ke 'ehu
o ke kai**

**Lāna'i stands
among the sea
sprays**

