

Office of Wellness & Resilience Newsletter



Ke Ke'ena Kūpa'a Maui Ola
Office of Wellness and Resilience
Office of the Governor
Our resilience is rooted in our wellness.



Welcoming our new deputy director, Dr. Trina Orimoto, on her first day at the Capitol!

From left to right: Erica Yamauchi, director of communications and engagement; Jodie Burgess, fiscal and procurement manager; Dr. Trina Orimoto, deputy director; Dr. Puanani Hee, psychologist, Child & Adolescent Mental Health Division, Dept. of Health; Tia L.R. Hartsock, director

Health Workforce

Tia participated in a panel (below) on vicarious trauma and workplace wellness at the Hawai'i Health Workforce Summit, a conference hosted by the Hawai'i/Pacific Basin AHEC (Area Health Education Center) for about 600 practicing healthcare professionals in the state, including physicians, nurses, community health workers and administrators. It covers diverse topics including telehealth, COVID, geriatrics, opioids, and healthcare provider well-being.



Staff Celebrations

Our very own Jodie Burgess (above) has been chosen to be part of the inaugural 'Ōiwi Leadership Accelerator. Jodie has also moved into a new OWR role as our fiscal and procurement manager. In addition, Erica Yamauchi was awarded the President's Leadership Award by the Public Relations Society of America's Hawai'i Chapter.



Maui Updates

The one-year memorial of the Maui wildfires was remembered in early August, and we are committed to the long-term mental health response as we know its effects will be felt on Maui and beyond for many years.

Please email us at gov.owr@hawaii.gov if you are interested in collaboration and attending our weekly coordinated mental health response call.

Below, from left to right: Keala Kaopuiki-Santos, project manager; Michele Navarro-Ishiki, LCSW; Amy Petersen, assistant project director with Dept. of Health's Maui Behavioral Health Wildfire Response, Tia L.R. Hartsock, director



About the Office of Wellness and Resilience (OWR)

Our goal is to strengthen our state systems and services, using healing-centered principles as strategies to make Hawai'i a trauma-informed state. We break down the barriers that impact the well-being of Hawai'i's people - from keiki to kūpuna.

Director's Message



Tia L. R. Hartsock,
Director

We hope you've had a wonder-full summer season, as it winds down into fall.

Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much) to everyone who applied to our open positions and sent the announcement along. In accordance with the signing of Act 106 (see right), our Office is growing and we'll be adding several wellness and resilience coordinators to our statewide team, both on O'ahu and on our neighbor islands, to engage with local communities in resilience-building, healing-centered work.

We're so excited to get this work up and running under the leadership of Dr. Trina Orimoto., our new deputy director Trina has a been a longtime friend of OWR, having helped lead efforts at the University of Hawai'i Social Science Research Institute with our state quality of life and workplace wellness survey.

Speaking of the survey, we have begun sharing the preliminary statewide results, and are meeting with state departmental leaders in October about more detailed data. We are excited to share more of the data publicly in November, and hope to launch our public dashboards by year's end as well.

Mālama pono,

Tia

Policy Updates

- The State of Well-Being Project ([Act 106](#)), expands OWR with additional staff to assess and enhance existing well-being supports in our communities statewide. We are almost finished with the hiring process and will begin work in accordance with the act in October.
- The Peer Support Specialist Working Group ([Act 88](#)), convened by OWR, had its first meeting in mid-September. The working group will develop recommendations for a framework for peer support specialists in the state. For more information, visit owr.hawaii.gov/peersupport or email gov.peers@hawaii.gov. Below, Naomi Leipold, project manager, facilitates a panel with peer support specialists from EPIC 'Ohana and Pū'a Foundation.



Mālama 'Ohana Working Group Recommendations

The Mālama 'Ohana Working Group hosted 12 meetings across the state, both in local communities from Kaula to Hilo, and online. From the meetings, the working group worked to analyze and code the community's feedback into more than 100 recommendations. They were then organized by theme, including prevention, creating trauma-informed and family-serving systems, cultural and Indigenous practices, and accountability and transparency. To view all of the Mālama 'Ohana Working Group's recommendations, visit [the Mālama 'Ohana Working Group website at malamaohana.net](http://theMālama'OhanaWorkingGroupwebsiteatmalamaohana.net).



This newsletter is a publication of the Office of Wellness & Resilience (OWR), within the Office of Governor Josh Green, M.D.

Let's talk story!

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