



Ka Nūhou

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Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

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Governor Linda Lingle said "The impact for generations to come is immense with generations having the chance to grow up in a home they own." Photo by Blaine Fergerstrom

An historic partnership is forged:

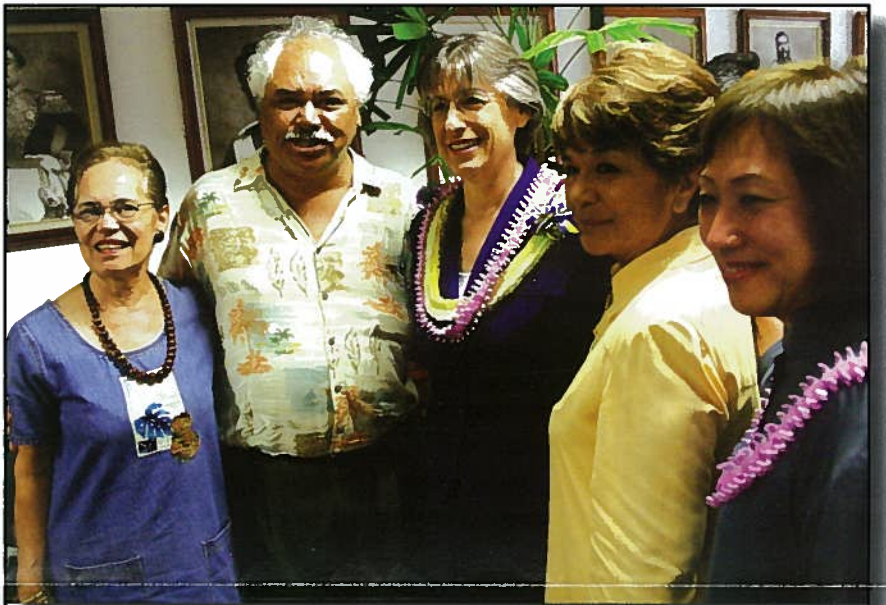
OHA Bolsters DHHL Projects

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) announced on June 5, 2008 they are joining forces in a historic partnership to provide more affordable housing for native Hawaiians, while improving the quality of life for surrounding communities.

OHA Chairperson Haunani Apoliona stated "In OHA's 30-year history, there has been no other OHA-DHHL financial partnership on the scale and magnitude of this one. Our collective success will help citizens appreciate the positive benefits of Hawaiian self-determination... It is a privilege to join with Governor Lingle, the Legislature, Micah and DHHL in serving our beneficiaries."

The OHA Board of Trustees approved a payment of \$3 million a year to cover the 30-years debt service at up to \$40 million in revenue bonds. The bonds will be used for DHHL's 2008-2009 statewide construction projects and \$5 million will be earmarked to fund planning, design and feasibility studies for community-driven projects in 18 regions throughout the state.

The 2008 Legislature approved the Lingle/Aiona Administration's request to authorize DHHL to issue \$100 million in revenue bonds for construction projects statewide.



Homestead association presidents (from the left) Olivia Aquino, Bo Kahui and Shirley Swinney take the news conference opportunity to pose with Governor Linda Lingle and Senate President Colleen Hanabusa.

Photo by Blaine Fergerstrom

Governor Linda Lingle said "The impact for generations to come is immense with generations having the chance to grow up in a home they own." She added "This partnership will help everyone... The infusion of capital into the construction industry help preserve jobs in all sectors of our economy."

"The ultimate purpose of providing these funds is to allow DHHL to expeditiously implement community master plans throughout the state," said OHA Administrator Clyde Nāmu'o. He said that the approval by the Trustees will allow OHA and DHHL to immediately work together to further help native Hawaiians.

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"Beneficiaries continue to urge DHHL to work with OHA, especially with regard to obtaining funds for infrastructure for residential homestead developments," said Hawaiian Homes Commission Chairman Micah Kāne. "We believe our track record of building affordable homes was important for both OHA and the Legislature in order to invest in this partnership."



DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS



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Chairman's Message

Aloha Kākou!

As many of you have urged, DHHL has worked with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to forge an historical partnership. The department with its land base and experience in building affordable homes has teamed up with OHA with its considerable financial base.

Ultimately, the partnership means that an additional 400 to 500 native Hawaiian beneficiaries and their families will be offered affordable housing opportunities in the next 12 to 18 months.

The OHA Board of Trustees on June 5, 2008, approved a 30-year, \$3 million-a-year payment to cover the debt service for up to \$40 million in revenue bonds. The \$40 million is part of the \$100 million in revenue bonds that the Legislature authorized during the past legislative session.

The Trustees voted 7-0 in support of the \$3 million-a-year payment with Trustees Waihee and Akana excused. Trustee Akana, however, was the only trustee to submit testimony against the payment.

The first concrete result of the partnership was seen in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Kumuhau subdivision in Waimānalo in late June. Speaking at the ceremony, OHA Chairperson Haunani Apoliona said "We are proud to be part of the opportunities to put more native Hawaiians on the land."

OHA's support of the department's revenue bonds means all of our projects can be accelerated. The Kumuhau site improvements are



Chairman Micah A. Kāne

expected to be completed by June 2009 with home construction to follow.

The statewide implications of the partnership are great, and our beneficiaries will benefit from it tremendously.

Another item that I would like to point out is the article on Ikaika Malloe on the following page.

With his perseverance and "never give up" attitude, he is an outstanding role model. As a member of the University of Washington's football team, his belief in himself brought him recognition as the hardest hitter for three consecutive seasons.

His "can do" attitude was displayed as he helped coach the Western Illinois Leathernecks to a Gateway Conference championship. He carried the same spirit over to the University of Texas at El Paso. While coaching the Miners' defensive line, his defense was able to pick up the Western Athletic Conference high of 47 sacks in 2004.

With his belief that it is up to him to take advantage of the opportunities, he is not the victim of circumstances--he definitely embodies the spirit of a true Hawaiian and is a welcomed addition to the U.H. Warrior coaching staff.

Micah K

Governor Lingle Signs Law to Increase Farm Loan Ceiling for Hawaiian Home Lands

Governor Linda Lingle signed into law on May 21, 2008, HB3126 (Act 90), which increases the loan ceiling for farm and ranch operations on Hawaiian home lands from \$50,000 to \$200,000. This loan cap has not been changed since 1982. Currently, the \$50,000 loan ceiling limits the types of improvements that can be made for farming and ranch operations. In some cases, the installation of an agricultural water meter alone costs \$60,000, not to mention other needed infrastructure and equipment.



Governor Linda Lingle signed Act 90 into law on May 21, 2008. Act 90 increases the loan ceiling for farm and ranch operations on Hawaiian home lands from \$50,000 to \$200,000.

The new \$200,000 loan ceiling will enable farmers to adequately build basic infrastructure as well as purchase equipment and tools. There are currently 1,102 agricultural leaseholders on homestead lands, and a portion of them are expected to take advantage of this loan increase to secure funding for the development, operation and expansion of their small commercial farms.

The bill was introduced by the Lingle/Aiona Administration on behalf of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands beneficiaries who requested the loan increase.

"The beneficiary farmer groups on all the islands made this piece of legislation possible; and this is an example of how their input has allowed the department to better address beneficiary concerns," said Micah Kane, director, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

The new law takes effect immediately.



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Chairman's Office:
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, Hawai'i 96707
Ph. (808) 620-9501 -Fax. (808) 620-9529

Information and Community Relations Office:
Ph. (808) 620-9590 - Fax. (808) 620-9599

Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Micah A. Kāne
Chairman, Hawaiian Homes Commission

Hawaiian Homes Commissioners
Perry O. Artates, Maui
Donald Chang, O'ahu
Stuart Hanchett, Kaua'i
Malia Kamaka, West Hawai'i
Francis Lum, O'ahu
Trish Morikawa, O'ahu
Milton Pa, Moloka'i

Lloyd Yonenaka, Public Information Officer

Kenneth H. Toguchi, Editor
Rhonda Funn, Associate Editor
Leanelle Kauwenaole, Associate Editor

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DHHL logo created by Stacey Leong Mills. The lau and hōkū symbolize Papa and Wākea, the two cosmogonic creators of the Hawaiian people. Papa, Earth-Mother, is symbolized by the lau (kalo leaf). Wākea, Sky-Father, is symbolized by the hōkū (star).