

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 13, 2012

Lanai Senior Center

CONVENE: 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, Chair
Councilmember G. Riki Hokama, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member
Councilmember Elle Cochran, Member
Councilmember Donald G. Couch, Jr., Member
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member
Councilmember Mike White, Member

EXCUSED: Councilmember Danny A. Mateo, Member

STAFF: Scott Kaneshina, Legislative Analyst
Josiah Nishita, Legislative Analyst
Camille Sakamoto, Committee Secretary
Denise Fernandez, Council Aide, Lanai Council Office
Morris Haole, Executive Assistant, Councilmember Robert Carroll

OTHERS: Mason Trevino, Student representative, Executive Board, Coalition for Drug Free Lanai
Saul Kahihikolo, Jr.
Sharon Owens
Leonida Etrata
Michelle Fujie, Coach, Na O Pio
Gazzelle Kaniho-Batoon
Jasmine Conroy-Humphrey
Keona Conroy-Humphrey
Joelle Aoki, Executive Director, Coalition for Drug Free Lanai
Kelli Gima, Program Coordinator, Coalition for Drug Free Lanai
Chelsea Trevino, Chair, Executive Board, Coalition for Drug Free Lanai
Beverly Zigmond, Program Coordinator, Lanai Office, Women Helping Women
Serenity Chambers, Behavioral Health Psychologist, Lanai Community Health Center
Norraine Pascua, Executive Director, Lanai Youth Center
Wayne Cochran
Garrett Hera
Kathy Carroll, Co-Founder and Board President, Lanai Animal Rescue Center
Fairfax "Pat" Reily

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Lorraine Dyer, Board Member of Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. and Lanai Animal Rescue Center
Herb Galindo, Representative, Lanai Maui Economic Opportunity (MEO) Senior Club
Lorna Sanches, Teen Advocate, Women Helping Women
Stacey Purdy, Board Treasurer, E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai Preschool
Gail Shin, Program Administrator, E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai Preschool
Tessie Morimoto, Board Member, E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai Preschool
Toni Baza
Butch Gima, Representative, Lanai Changes
Andrew Delacruz, Board Chair, Lanai Community Health Center
Frances Waite, President, Lanai Pop Warner Association

Sherman Baisa
Margaret Masicampo
Thirty-three (33) additional unidentified attendees

ITEM BF-1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI
(CC 12-59)

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .(*gavel*). . . Okay. The Council Budget and Finance Committee meeting for April 13th, 2012 at the Lanai Senior Center is now in session. Good evening, everyone. Thank you having us here this evening. At this time, I'd like to yield the floor to Councilmember Riki Hokama who will provide us with the introductions of the Members that are present here tonight. Rik?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you, Chairman. Aloha, Lanai!

AUDIENCE: Aloha!

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Thank you for being here on a *Friday* night. I know there's volleyball. . .no, no, well, softball, wrestling, ukulele festival, so thank you for sharing some of your Friday night with the Council members. This is your opportunity, again, to let us know what you feel is important for Lanai and your. . .our young people and our old people. But tonight let me first introduce to my left, people who also represent you. They also represent all of you, please know that. Your Council member that represents you from East Maui is Mr. Robert Carroll.

AUDIENCE: . . . (*applause*) . . .

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: From Upcountry Maui, your Council member is Ms. Gladys Baisa.

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AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Your Council member that represents you from West Maui is Elle Cochran.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Your Member from the South Maui District is Mr. Don Couch.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And then I'm going to skip the Chairman. To my immediate right, he's a very popular man and your Member from Wailuku, is Mr. Michael Victorino.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Aloha. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And he's not Shane's dad.

ALL: . . . *(laughter)* . . .

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Shane is Mike's *son*.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: There you go.

ALL: . . . *(laughter)* . . .

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And from the Paia-Haiku region of Maui, your Council member is Mr. Mike White.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And then chairing, of course, is very important. . . committee that deals with all of your money is, of course, your Council member from Kahului, Mr. Joe Pontanilla.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

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VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And the Chairman will introduce critical people who support the Committee, which is our Staff. Chairman?

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Mr. Hokama. Tonight with us is our Legislative Analyst Scott Kaneshina, the guy with the green shirt; Josiah--

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*) . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --Nishita, the guy with the gray shirt; and Camille Sakamoto. Camille is the Secretary of the Committee.

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*) . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Also, with us is Executive Assistant from Member Carroll's office, Morris Haole. Right there.

AUDIENCE: . . . (*applause*) . . .

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: You know, Members, I'm going to turn on the fan because it's kind of muggy tonight but hold your papers 'cause it's pretty strong, the fan.

COUNCILMEMBER ____: . . .(*laughter*) . . .

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .(*inaudible*) . . .

AUDIENCE: . . .(*laughter*) . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, no kidding, man. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Hokama. Again tonight, ladies and gentlemen, it's your opportunity to provide public testimony to the Council Budget and Finance Committee in regards to the Mayor's proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2013. We do this every year. We come out and you provide public testimony. With all the testimony that we receive, we formulate our Budget, based on the needs of the community. So, at this time, before I take up public testimony, I want to ask every one of us to turn off our cell phones or put it on the silent mode.

NOTE: Pause.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . . Thank you. When you come up to provide your public testimony, if you can speak directly into the mic--the proceedings are being recorded by our Staff people. Provide us your name, organization that you represent, and you have three minutes to provide public testimony. And this time the Chair will provide you an additional minute to conclude. So, with that, the first person to sign up for public testimony is Mason Trevino.

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*) . . .

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...BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

MASTER TREVINO: Hi, my name is Mason Trevino. I'm 13 years old and in the 7th grade. I am one of two student representatives--

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Hold on, Mason.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Hang on.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Please, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Turn on the mic.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: On the top.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Here we go.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: There you go. Okay, there you go.

MASTER TREVINO: Yeah. Hi, my name is Mason Trevino. I am 13 years old and in the 7th grade. I am one of two representatives on the Coalition for Drug Free Lanai Board. We are very thankful for the \$39,600 that you have given us. As a student representative, I'm the voice for the youth of Lanai on the Executive Board. These funds are important to me and my friends because they provide us a chance to play with. . .play many different sports. I am also a member of the Lanai Youth Center which works with the Coalition to provide us with activities and education about drug and alcohol prevention. I ask that you please continue providing us with funds for our community. A line item of \$45,000 will help our agency meet our Federal grant requirements and the whole island of Lanai. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Next testifier is Saul Kahihikolo.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

MR. KAHIIKOLO, JR.: Aloha, Council members, thank you for being here today. My name is Saul Kahihikolo. Like many of us here on Lanai, we were. . .I, myself wear many different hats--President of Hui Wa'a O Lanai; also a Board Member of CDFL and here to testify on behalf of CDFL; Keiki O Lanai; as well as Hui Wa'a also. As Mason said, we need those fundings. Only other things that you will find here on Lanai as every place else, but more so here is the collaboration and the needing. And CDFL themselves really are the forerunners in. . .and helping different organization, youth organizations besides the Youth Center, also Hui Wa'a O Lanai is also funded through them as well. The other is that I'd like to testify on behalf is the Preschool. My wife, who was the Executive Director at one time, you know, our hearts go

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to the . . .the Preschool teachers as well as the Board Members there. Funding is essential for our youth, and so on behalf of all of those organizations--CDFL, Preschool, as well as Hui Wa'a O Lanai--thank you so much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MR. KAHIIKOLO, JR.: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Next testifier is Sharon Owens.

NOTE: Pause while Ms. Owens approached the mic.

MS. OWENS: . . . Aloha, Council members. I am here as an individual. . .thanking you for the gift that is the MEO bus. We have, as you know, no public transportation here on Lanai. We're not in New York. I can't just go out and hail a cab. I couldn't afford one anyways. There's no bus transportation. And I have a genetic progressive neurological condition. It affects my balance and my ability to walk, and causes fatigue and a number of other symptoms. They come to my home, they pick me up, they help me run my errands. I can't begin to tell you how patient and kind and helpful, and how far above and beyond the call of duty Doreen goes on a regular basis, and Julio, too. He drives on Friday and I don't usually ride on Fridays. But he's wonderful, too. They help me get my groceries, they help go all the places that I need to go, and get home safely. I would not be able to walk safely to town. I have friends who have cars, but they're usually working. And the people who would be available and have the time to help me, they're not working. So it's an invaluable aid and I . . .I hope that you continue to fund it. It's very, very necessary in our community. And I'm aware that there are other programs, such as the youths and the canoe groups that the MEO bus helps, not just me. Also, I'm a student at the Lanai Center for Maui Community College, and they've made special provisions to make sure that I get to and from class, even though it's out of the way for them. And I'm very grateful. Thank you very much for your time.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Leonida Etrata?

NOTE: Pause while Ms. Etrata approached the mic.

MS. ETRATA: . . . I'm Leonida Etrata. Thank you for-oh, sorry. Thank you, Council member, of your support with MEO. My son could not be here tonight. This is a picture, and my son.

COUNCILMEMBER ____: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. ETRATA: Yeah . . .*(laughter)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Look like you.

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MS. ETRATA: Yeah, thank you. MEO was taking my son, JR, and me to the airport and when we return, they come pick up. . .pickups without MEO. . .the bus. And we could not do this. Please keep MEO on Lanai for my son and. . .and the other people who lives in Lanai. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. ETRATA: Okay, thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Michelle Fujie?

MS. FUJIE: . . . Good evening. Aloha, Mayor Arakawa and esteemed Council. My name is Michelle Fujie. I am the coach for Na O Pio, the youth paddlers from Hui Wa'a O Lanai. . .Lanai's only canoe club. Mark Sako, the other coach, was not able to attend tonight's proceedings due to scheduling conflicts. There are three programs we are here for tonight" Kungpung Lanai, Coalition for Drug Free Lanai; Lanai Youth Center; and MEO. We wish to extend our most sincere and heartfelt mahalo nui loa for your support through the years and urge you to continue providing financial support to these programs that are vital to the continuation of the youth padding program through Hui Wa'a O Lanai. Make sure you state your name.

MISS KANIHO-BATOON: My name is Gazzelle Kaniho-Batoon. Through the partnership with CDFL and Na O Pio has been able to provide healthy activities such as paddling and camping. We hope with continued support to develop a future curriculum that encourages youth to being healthy, socially responsible citizens. CDFL has been an invaluable ally through programs such as Ai Ola Pono and healthy fairs. Our paddlers are aware of what a healthy lifestyle is so they are able to make the right decisions and to take part in our program.

MS. FUJIE: State your name first. Okay.

MISS CONROY-HUMPHREY: My name is Jasmine Humphrey. With the support of the County's matching funds to secure the Federal Drug-Free communities grant, CDFL was able to purchase a six-man canoe and two one-man canoes which are all useable by Na O Pio on a weekly basis. With the small size of our club and community, it would have taken us several years to amass the funds needed to purchase these vessels. CDFL also provides us with opportunities to further fund Na O Pio while teaching us the value of giving back to the community. Aunty Joelle and her staff have occurred to help us with purchasing paddles and other much-needed supplies by having us clean out CDFL storage units. CDFL has paid to train our coaches in the evidence-based scientific proven _____ life skills, healthy living prevention program so that they can not only provide us ways to live pono but also develop another money stream to support Na O Pio.

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MS. FUJIE: State your name . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

MASTER CONROY-HUMPHREY: My name is Keona Humphrey. The Lanai Youth Center has also been very supportive of our program and has provided the use of the Youth Center's van on several occasions when other sources of transportation were not available. We are grateful for their generosity and urge you to continue supporting such a wonderful and important organization in our community. They also tutor students in our school, as well as sponsoring the school's Friday activities which offers enrichment to the curriculum such as archery, cooking, tennis, and financial fitness. Another organization which has opened its doors to us is MEO. Aunty Doreen and her staff have bent over backwards to provide quality transportation to our organization. They have always said yes to our request for transportation, even if that request was given on short notice. Aunty Doreen has expressed her desire to support Na O Pio in any way she can. MEO also supports our MIL paddlers by transporting our student athletes to and from the beach during MIL paddling season. We love Aunty Doreen, her staff, and the entire MEO program.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for . . .

MS. FUJIE: Oh, sorry, one last closing statement.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay, go ahead.

MS. FUJIE: As you know, we are a very small community so the limited resources we have are shared by several different entities throughout the year. It is vital that funding be provided to ensure the continued success of these various organizations and programs. Please help us nurture the next generation of socially responsible productive citizens. Mahalo for your time and consideration in this matter. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you. Members, questions for the testifiers? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. FUJIE: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Joelle Aoki?

MS. AOKI: . . . Good evening, Chair and Council members. Thank you for coming to Lanai. We're so pleased to have you here once again. My name is Joelle Aoki. I'm the Executive Director of the Coalition for Drug Free Lanai, and we are so grateful for the assistance you provided us this past year. The line item from the Mayor's Office assisted us with matching our Federal grant match requirement and we . . . we accomplished a lot this year. And so this evening we'd like you to know that this . . . this would not be possible without the commitment of the County of Maui and . . . and just the support you've given us has made Lanai really unique because we are now in

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our seventh year of our ten-year grant award. And every year it's not an automatic renewal; it is a requirement that we have to leverage the funds from other agencies, partners, and particularly our local government. So we are very grateful. Thank you very much. This year our commitment to our efforts has done tremendous things in our community such as our annual student drug and alcohol use survey, our literacy program through the Lanai High and Elementary School, health fairs for the community and the Four Seasons Resort's employees, as well as other evidence-based educational programs, training opportunities for partners, strategic planning and environmental studies which provide hard data specific to the island of Lanai. So this evening, I've brought a very special piece for you, which is our preliminary community needs assessment report which we've been working on for over two years. And, again, it is preliminary, so it is not our final or our final draft. So I will provide this to the Clerk for your viewing. And if you need me to send this to you electronically, I can do that as well. Also, we've brought copies of our alcohol, tobacco and other drug use survey which is done yearly in our school for grades 6 through 12. Previously, the State of Hawaii compiled this information in our public schools. And the last survey done was in 2003. So we have done it every year for the last four years and been able to get that hard data on Lanai and provide it to you every year. And so this is what your . . . our County of Maui monies has gone towards funding in addition to our drug- and alcohol-free programs that you've heard from with the youth and the other agencies. We also would like to ask for your support with Women Helping Women, Keiki O Lanai Preschool, and MEO, as well as any of the other agencies here on Lanai--because every single one of them are partners of ours and we *all* would not be able to do what we do without each other. And again, I just want to thank you so very much. Oh, one more important fact that I should probably remember to share with you is that this coming year--

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. AOKI: --our Federal grant is requiring *125* percent match. So it's increasing from 22 percent to 34 percent for local government. So we are asking, humbly, for your support of a line item of \$45,000 this year in order to secure the *125,000* from the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration Office of the President. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes, thank you very much, Joelle. Good to see you again. You're requesting 45,000 this year. What do you have now?

MS. AOKI: \$39,600.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: So, it's a small increase.

MS. AOKI: Yes. And just to clarify, those, the additional monies will be utilized for environmental strategies emphasizing specifically underage drinking and excessive drinking at our only public beach park here on Lanai by increasing signage and educating the public through our Lanai Park Rangers.

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COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I, you know, I want to thank you for bringing your survey because I recently participated in the “Don’t Be a Jerk” thing, and it was startling to find out that our kids are *admitting* that many of ‘em start drinking at *11*. Did you find anything startling like that in yours?

MS. AOKI: Actually, our surveys are 10.4, is the--

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. AOKI: 10.4 is the age of onset for the island of Lanai.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: That’s scary. Well, I guess we have work to do. Thank you.

MS. AOKI: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions? Mr. Victorino?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Joelle, do you, you know this ten-year plan, I mean, ten-year grant, at the end of the ten years you have to reapply for another ten years? Or how does that one work, real quickly?

MS. AOKI: No. Through the work that we’ve done with our studies, we should be able to have enough data and information collected that we can establish a sustainability plan that can be executed.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: And then you’ll have every year a renewable grant?

MS. AOKI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay.

MS. AOKI: That’s the *plan*.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: That’s the plan, okay . . .*(laughter)*. . . Thank you, Joelle.

MS. AOKI: . . .*(laughter)*. . . Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Any more questions, Members? Mr. White?

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COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: What is the number that's in the Mayor's Budget at the time? I was. . . I was trying to look it up quickly.

MS. AOKI: \$45,000.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Okay, so he, he has the numbers that you want in the Budget already.

MS. AOKI: Yes. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay, thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more questions? Seeing none--

MS. AOKI: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --thank you very much. Kelli Gima?

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

MS GIMA: . . . Good evening, everyone. It's perfect that I get to follow my *boss* . . . *(laughter)*. . . My name is Kelli Gima and I'm the Program Coordinator at Coalition for Drug Free Lanai, and I'm also a social worker with Aloha House. And many have, people have already testified about the things that we've been doing at the CDFL, and again, thank you very much for your continuous funding support. I also wanted to recognize the Lanai Youth Center and request for support, continuous support for them as well. They. . . it is *because* of a program like them that we can get our services out to the youth in. . . in our community. They are a great partner to have with the CDFL. They are executing a lot of different activities such as the middle school life skills activities every Friday for middle school, so 6th through 8th; and they are also implementing our . . . *(inaudible)*. . . life skills program which has emphasis on drug. . . being drug-free and abstaining from tobacco and alcohol as well. So, again, thank you for the continuous support for the Lanai Youth Center and the CDFL. And also very quickly, I want to thank you for the support with Women Helping Women. As a social worker in this community, working with children and families, I. . . it's great to see other organizations and the work that they're doing here. And it's great that we *have* a Domestic Violence advocate *here* on Lanai. Many times we have people coming from Maui and doing work here, and that does not work very well. We have a very *unique* community made up of very different types of people. So I ask you to continue support for Women Helping Women so that we can have our safe community and have someone present here. So, thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Mr. White?

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you. In the Budget there's Women Helping Women under one, I'm assuming that you're connected with the Maui branch and . . .

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MS. GIMA: I actually don't work for Women Helping Women.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay. Oh, I'm sorry. You're, that's right.

MS. GIMA: No, no, no. But, yes, they are connected with the Maui branch.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay, that, that's what I thought. Okay. Thank you.

MS. GIMA: You're welcome.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, any more questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. GIMA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chelsea Trevino?

MS. TREVINO: Hello. Thank you for coming. Friday night, woo!

COUNCIL MEMBERS: . . .(laughter). . .

MS. TREVINO: Okay, yeah, so I'm Chelsea Trevino. I'm the parents' segment representative for the CDFL Board, also the Chairwoman for the Board. Been on the Board for over ten years. Mason was the first representative who came up tonight, that's my son. He actually *volunteered* to be on the Board. All I did was asked him and he took it over. A lot of the stuff I wrote here is. . .repetitive, but I guess just to again remind you again that we did receive \$39,600 last year as a line item. Mahalo. And we are requesting, again this year, a line item--but this year again 45,000. Uh, yes, 45,000. And I, I'm assuming you're aware, but the matching funds is the big deal here; and without those matching funds, we're not going to get these Federal grants. You've heard of all the numerous agencies that Coalition for Drug Free Lanai works with. And then as a parent, I thought I wanted to just emphasize this Friday afternoon activity thing that's going on. I don't know if you guys know what that is. But basically on Fridays, if we did not have this Friday afternoon activity program, at 12:30 all of the middle schoolers--7th, oh, excuse me--6th through 8th grade would be released from school. So this activity provides--from 12:30 to 2:00--something for the kids to participate in. Now it's done *in* the School. It's something that we've helped fund through the Youth Center and then the School, you know, provides for it. But let me just tell you what I wrote down here . . .(laughter). . .

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .(laughter). . .

MS. TREVINO: Uh. . . 'cause it's really quite nice. Okay, so this program was created, like I said, to. . .to have an opportunity for these kids to. . .have both educational and recreational activities

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from financial literacy to chess to ukulele to cooking to junior youth empowerment. And all of these are from that middle-school age. And as you. . .discussed earlier, the whole 11 years old, 10 years old, this middle-age, this middle-school age is when they're forming who they're going to be as adults. So this program has been created on Fridays is very important. It also provides these students with opportunity to learn about hidden treasures they may not realize they have. You know everything is not all about education and what you can do in school.

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. TREVINO: We all have hidden. . .hidden talents within us. So that's one of the wonderful values of this Friday afternoon activity that's provided. And so, that's it. As you know, we support many other agencies and you'll hear from them, and I don't feel I need to repeat those. But I wasn't sure if you guys were *aware* about this Friday afternoon activity and what a great thing it is. So, again, just asking for your support for the Mayor's line item of 45,000 and thank you for coming and hearing us today. Thanks.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. TREVINO: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*) . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Beverly Zigmond?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .(*inaudible*) . . .

MS. ZIGMOND: . . . Chair, Vice-Chair, Budget and Finance Committee Members, good evening and thank you for coming to Lanai and listening to our needs. My name is Beverly Zigmond and I am the Program Coordinator for the Lanai Office of Women Helping Women. First of all, I would like to thank you for your support of our agency over the years and to thank the Mayor and Department of Housing and Human Concerns for reinstating our funding to the 2010 levels. The Lanai Office of Women Helping Women celebrates its 10th Anniversary this year, and it has been your support for almost all of those years that has allowed us to provide services to victims of domestic violence. Least my testimony sounds self-serving, I would like to share why your support is so crucial. Unfortunately, domestic violence is an ugly reality in our community. Are the numbers increasing or is our public awareness campaign more effective in that women know that there's help? In either case, the need for our services continues to increase and because of the County's support we continue to be there. Our Rental Assistance Program funded by you prevents women and children from being homeless or having to remain in an unsafe environment. These funds are meant to *empower* and not enable. They help a woman get on her feet. Recently, I had to move to a new rental home. There was no way I could afford to pay first month's rent plus security deposit, so I borrowed from mom. That's the idea behind the Rental Assistance Program--helping someone to get started. Our Teen Advocate Program is now

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funded by the County. In addition to working with teen girls, we plan to expand this program to do prevention work and to include teen boys. Our Teen Advocate will talk more about this, as well as give you some compelling testimony by some of her clients. And, of course, Women Helping Women continues to provide advocacy case management, filing of restraining orders, crisis intervention, emergency shelter--the whole gamut of services. I have **15** written testimonies from colleagues, supporters, task force members, and clients who could not be here. You won't see my clients lined up behind me in support, as no one wants to be identified in public as a survivor. I would like to conclude by reading to you the testimony of one client, though.

“Regarding continued funding for Women Helping Women on Lanai, this is an absolute must. I have recently escaped from a very intensely terrifying situation that I was secretly enduring for many years and feel that I could not have left that situation with my child as successfully and safely without the amazing help I received from Women Helping Women. They offered me pure quality assistance. I may have eventually tried to escape on my own but I am confident that my child and I would not be here today in the sound, mental, emotional, and physical condition we are in, due to the powerful services Women Helping Women provided me and are continuing to provide. Our Lanai agents are amazing, well-trained professional and able to provide me the strength when I needed it the most. I was calmed and reassured when I needed it the most. I was given the right help at the right time. The crisis I found myself in was and is still real. I was terrified beyond movement. Frozen, stuck, not knowing which way to go, they showed me safe directions to take--

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. ZIGMOND: *--held the flashlight and pointed in the right direction for me and was there all the way. This program is more than helping get. . .getting someone out of a crisis safety, but is about helping someone like myself get on my feet and start a new path--a successfully, happy, and safe one. I am so full of appreciation and gratitude for all the support and services that they have provided me. I can say with pure conviction that they are an organization that has real value and cannot be overlooked.”* And she just asked you to continue our funding. And I thank you for that. And I also would like to put in my plug for the Youth Center, the Preschool, CDFL, and Lanai Community Health Center. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. And thank you for being here. Do you get your money from the Women Helping Women on Maui and a portion of it? Because all I see in the Budget is one line item.

MS. ZIGMOND: Yes. That is for the entire agency, and they distribute the, their. . .for their different programs on Maui. But the Lanai program is **100** percent funded by the County.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Right, from the Women Helping Women--

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MS. ZIGMOND: Yes. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: --on. . .on Maui.

MS. ZIGMOND: On Maui. Yes--

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay, great. Thank you.

MS. ZIGMOND: --we are one.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you.

MS. ZIGMOND: All right.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. ZIGMOND: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Serenity Chambers?

MS. CHAMBERS: Hello. Thanks for coming. Oh . . .

NOTE: Pause while Ms. Chambers adjusted the mic.

MS. CHAMBERS: I . . .I guess I'm shorter . . .*(laughter)*. . .

ALL: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

MS. CHAMBERS: Maybe. . .let me hold it?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah, there you go.

MR. KANESHINA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . The whole . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. CHAMBERS: Oh, this?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: The whole thing. There you go.

MS. CHAMBERS: Ah . . .

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. . . Okay, thanks. Okay, good evening. My name is Serenity Chambers. I am a new Behavioral Health Psychologist at the Lanai Community Health Center. And I'm here to say, first of all, thank you so much for supporting our program last year. It has really contributed to creating an integrated behavioral health program at the Lanai Community Health Center. And without your support, we would not really be making it happen right now. So I really want to say thank you so much for that. I just started two months ago. I'm the first full-time behavioral health provider here and I just want to tell you a little bit about the program in case you're not familiar. But it is the only integrated and comprehensive behavioral health program on the island. So what we do is we work closely with the medical professionals up there and they help to facilitate referrals to the kind of emotional/psychological/behavioral side of things which, as we know is a component of all mental. . .all health conditions. So we are able to refer patients directly to our services, which normally because of the stigma or because of the walk or what have you, normally a lot of these patients would never be seen. Because we have this nice referral program where we can have them actually come and talk to us directly after they are seen for some of these health conditions, they are able to come and see us immediately and we can work together to help them with a lot of these chronic health conditions. The other thing I want to mention is our Center is dedicated to serving the underinsured and the uninsured, and we don't turn anyone away if they don't have enough money. And so your, the funding that's provided is really helping us to help *them*. And as we know, those who are at the lower socio-economic status classes tend to have more and multiple chronic health conditions, and so they are the most in need. Um, let's see what else. So just some of the things that we see a lot of--like I said, I've only been here for two months and I've already seen many people with chronic health conditions who have been very grateful for these services and especially grateful that there's now somebody here who's going to stay. Because a lot of the people who have come have come and gone. And so I've already worked with many people who have chronic health conditions. I do want to plug the Women Helping Women. I've seen a number of patients who have issues with domestic violence. We do have a lot of teenage and young pregnancy, you know poor skills when handling relationship conflicts, so we have a lot of domestic-violence type related issues. Uh . . .

. . . Lastly, I would just say that I know that--

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MS. CHAMBERS: --Lanai is a really small population and it would be easy to forget about. . .Lanai. And also like I said with the underinsured, there's an easy way to kind of forget about them, and I really appreciate that you all are paying attention to this very unique and special population.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Norraine Pascua?

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NOTE: Pause while Ms. Pascua approached the mic.

MS. PASCUA: . . . Good evening, Maui County Council members. My name is Norraine Pascua and I am the Executive Director of the Lanai Youth Center. On behalf of my staff, Board Members, and parents, I would like to begin by thanking all of you for taking the time to come to Lanai and for your continued support of the Lanai Youth Center. Our current membership includes approximately 200-plus youths. Lanai Youth Center is a fun, safe place for youth to gather with supervised, organized, and structured activities. We are open five days a week to youth ages 8 to 17 years old. The County Council has always supported us, and for that we are truly grateful. The Lanai Youth Center's mission is to provide enhanced programs that assist in early youth development that will help to build positive attitudes and a healthy lifestyle. The Center provides activities offering youth the opportunity to achieve proficiency and basic educational skills, promote healthy lifestyle choices, increase youth awareness and appreciation for Lanai and Hawaii's diverse culture and provides alternative recreational activities. To further enhance our programs, we have developed partnerships throughout the community. We have developed a partnership with Lanai MEO Transportation who has helped us in transporting our youths as well as youths from off-island to their destination. We have also developed a partnership with the Coalition for Drug Free Lanai and is working together to provide the Friday afternoon activities to the middle school youths and the _____ life skills program to our youths at the Lanai Youth Center. We would like to thank you for your support of the Coalition for Drug Free Lanai with the line item that helps the organization meet the Federal requirement for matching dollars for the Federal Drug Free Committee's grant and request that you continue to support them in the coming fiscal year. We would like to submit signed signatures on behalf of the Lanai Youth Center Board Members, teachers, community members, parents, and youth. The Board Members, staff, and youth would also like to enclose their letters to say thank you in their own words. In closing, we would like to ask that you support the following: Coalition for Drug Free Lanai, Lanai MEO Transportation, Keiki O Lanai Preschool, Lanai Art Center, and Women Helping Women. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. PASCUA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Wayne Cochran?

ALL: . . .(laughter). . .

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: You. . .you, you come all the way from Maui to Lanai to testify?
...*(laughter)*...

ALL: ...*(laughter)*...

NOTE: Pause.

MR. COCHRAN: . . . Good evening, Council. I ask that you take a good look at this picture I'm passing around. And I know it's hard for you guys to get out to Honolua side, but when it is good, is a world-class wave and it's also the top snorkeling destination on the *island*. It is. . .it is still a pretty virgin area, and I appreciate the effort you guys are making to help us acquire this and keep it in the community and not turn it in to some kind of a private resort. . .Ritz Carlton snorkel center or something like that. The Mayor's budgeted thirty-one five for acquisition of. . .starting acquisition, and we had the million dollar grant several years ago. So I just want to keep that aware on you. And I really appreciate you guys going around to all these places. I work with Lahaina Civic for about 20 years as a volunteer now, and Lahaina Civic is. . .is like all the civic centers. We have the best civic centers, it's great. We have such a small staff and it is so clean and well-maintained. The guys right now are doing a better job than it's ever been. I just want to thank you guys for that. And then at the meeting the other night, Wednesday, there was so many people testifying for the timeshares. Now, I'm a timeshare owner and I pay \$3,400 this year for maintenance fees of my Marriott on Kauai. Actually, last year, I paid a little bit more--almost 35. All these people are complaining, but I don't think it was the timeshare owners who are actually saying that they're losing their jobs or that they are disgruntled about that 4 percent. If you're going to foreclose your timeshare, it's not about a 4 percent tax increase. It's about the whole idea of being forced into this huge maintenance recovery thing. I don't think the timeshares are really, a really feasible, profitable thing for, in the long run. I think the people already took their money and are gone and I, I just. . .am a disgruntled timeshare owner. And if I lose it, it's not because of the income tax. Our taxes went down this year. My fee was lower. So I didn't get to put my. . .my two cents in and I didn't want to. . .irritate all my friends there at the meeting.

ALL: ...*(laughter)*...

MR. COCHRAN: I, I thank you, Lanai people, for letting a Maui guy--

ALL: ...*(laughter)*...

MR. COCHRAN: I couldn't get in over there! So--

ALL: ...*(laughter)*...

MR. COCHRAN: There was like 200 people. Good night. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you ...*(laughter)*...

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, questions for the testifier?

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .*(laughter)*. . . ‘Eh, you could have tell, told us that on the boat coming over.

MR. COCHRAN: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ah, shoots.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: That was good, that was good.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: You’re smart though. Garrett Hera?

MR. HERA: . . . Good evening, Council members. Thank you for being here. First of all, I would like to ask for your support for the MVB tourism funding request to strengthen and improve our tourist industry. And also, I would also like to ask for your continued support for the Coalition for Drug Free Lanai, the Lanai Youth Center. I used to work for those programs, and I also used to work for Maui Youth and Family Services as a high-risk outreach counselor. And we collaborated with the Lanai Youth Center and my job was to reach out to youths in the community and draw them into the youth center programs. But I think it’s a *vital* component, these youth programs for Lanai for afterschool. . .programs, drug-free and alcohol-free programs, and to help teach our children a positive life skills and just activities. ‘Cause you guys. . .you guys know Lanai--you know, Lanai is small and. . .and we need something for the kids afterschool. So I just want to ask for your continued support. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MR. HERA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Kathy Carroll?

NOTE: Pause.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Who’d you say?

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Kathy Carroll. . . and then you're next.

NOTE: Pause while Ms. Carroll approached the mic.

MS. CARROLL: . . . Thank you for coming today. We're very grateful for your time and attention. My name is Kathy Carroll and I'm a volunteer and co-founder of the Lanai Animal Rescue Center or LARC. We've been spaying and neutering stray cats since 2004, which has dramatically decreased the cat problem on Lanai. In 2008, LARC was established as a 501(c)(3) community service nonprofit organization. Our mission is to assist animals on Lanai by providing sustenance, foster homes, shelter, adoption, veterinary care, spay/neuter services, and humane education. We are fulfilling our mission and have expanded the services we offer to our community through the generosity of individual donors and volunteers. We are providing a needed service, a needed service on Lanai not just for animals but for people also. We have provided for you an attached overview of our organization's history and accomplishments. While much of LARC's work is done by volunteers, we have really stepped up to provide part-time work for four people in our community, including two who were born and raised on Lanai. We respectfully request your help in securing County of Maui funding in the amount of \$44,516 to defray fixed costs of rent, insurance, utilities, and labor. We've included a detailed table for your review in our written testimony. We have not received funding from the Maui Humane Society or the County of Maui in the past. We are attaching letters of support from Maui Humane Society and written testimony from local community people that describes how LARC has made a positive difference in the community. Any assistance you can give us will be greatly appreciated. And it's signed Kathy Carroll, President; Bob McIntyre, Secretary/Treasurer; Alberta deJetley, Director; and Lorraine Dyer, Director. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? We'll go with Mr. Victorino, followed by Mr. White.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: So am I understanding you correctly--the amount you're asking for, you, it's not a line item at this time?

MS. CARROLL: I am not sure whether--

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Because I was look, trying to find it.

MS. CARROLL: It is not, it is not a line item at this point.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: It's not in the Budget, okay, okay. That's--

MS. CARROLL: And, and we realize we may be late in this process.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay. That's what I'm asking 'cause I was kind of looking for that. And secondly--

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MS. CARROLL: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --if I'm clear in what I heard, did you get no funding from the *Maui* Humane Society at this time.

MS. CARROLL: No. No funding at this time.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: You have support, but no money.

MS. CARROLL: We have support. At one time, Maui Humane Society talked about having us be sort of umbrella'd under them.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Uh-huh.

MS. CARROLL: But we felt, and they agreed, that Lanai, we've really stepped up. We used to look to the island of Maui to solve all our animal problems, and we stepped up and said we've gotta solve the problem at home.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Uh-huh.

MS. CARROLL: And so we felt it was time to really do this. We have been self-supported since 2004.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Okay, thank you. And continue the good work.

MS. CARROLL: Oh, thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: You mentioned that you have a letter of support from Maui Humane Society.

MS. CARROLL: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: And in their budget request there is a \$200,000 increase. So do you know if their support is basically saying it's okay for you, for us to take a portion of that money and put towards Lanai or have you had any discussions of that sort?

MS. CARROLL: No, we've, we've not talked at all about obtaining any funds through Maui Humane Society. I do know they provide some Molokai Humane Society.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: For Molokai, correct.

MS. CARROLL: Correct. But none for Lanai. I believe their increase is for their own programs and needs.

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COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Okay.

MS. CARROLL: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: I just want to clarify whether. . .whether they had asked on your behalf already so--

MS. CARROLL: No. No.

COUNCILMEMBER WHITE: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions? Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. CARROLL: Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Fair--

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Fairfax "Pat" Reily?

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Pat, your turn.

NOTE: Pause while Mr. Reily approached the mic.

MR. REILY: . . . Good evening, Chair Pontanilla, Vice-Chair Riki, and Members. Pat Reily, I'm a retired school counselor. This is my 34th year and I know that there are people here that been here longer than I have. I was reflecting. . .I came in '78. And when you listen to all these programs and you look around Lanai--this building, fire station, police station--and the way the programs have been integrated to help the total community. . .that wasn't happening when I came in 1978. So, I think the Council must give itself a lot of credit for continued funding of these programs. And it would be, I just happened to put this shirt on. . .because it was colder today--

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

MR. REILY: --and as I talk, listened to this I probably, in my 34 years, have a t-shirt from every organization here. And you can tell I'm kind of losing my hair. . .so I'm ready for MEO, too.

ALL: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

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MR. REILY: I wanted to bring up. . .an issue that maybe doesn't get as much attention, and that is the MEO Business Program. Ms. Delia Wilson comes here, teaches the business core, Four Core course. She takes loan applications through a *generous* grant from an individual and helps people--both the current businesses and new business enterprises--to develop their business plan and improve it. I just looked on the DLIR website, and in 2000 our labor force was 1,800. Now that doesn't sound very much compared to Maui, but our labor force right now is *1,500*. We cannot afford to help a shrinking labor force. And I believe that at least, in part, we are concerned about the future of Lanai's economy. And if we can support in any way individuals to start their own enterprises, to develop good business plans, to go out and seek money to bring more money into this community, I think it's. . . may be small but very important in terms of our attitude and our sense of well-being. So, it's a. . . I took the course and I know in the first round I was thinking of nonprofit. It helped me a whole lot to think through a business plan related to nonprofit--not just for-profit businesses, but for nonprofit--helped me understand about cash flow a little bit. And I think it would help your budget, maybe--if we could get some businesses going over here, it might put some revenues in the County budget. So just take a look at that one. I think it's a good, excellent program and it's appropriate for Lanai. Mahalo. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Lorraine Dyer?

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

NOTE: Pause while Ms. Dyer approached the mic.

MS. DYER: . . . I'm Lorraine Dyer, but Herb was supposed to be first and I was supposed to stand behind him and then *I* was supposed to talk.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Well, we, we're letting beauty come before--

MS. DYER: Come first? Okay. I am a Board Member of MEO and also of LARC, as Kathy stated. And thank you for all that you have done for MEO with their transportation, our. . .our, you know shopping trips at Lanai gets over there and everything. And the Maui Development Board, that one, and everything 'cause that's been a tremendous asset here on the island. And then for our animals, she goes to the Board meetings . . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

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MS. DYER: So. . .and we have done a tremendous amount. If there can be any money for us, it would be a fantastic help and everything. And just thank you. Thank you all for what you have done for MEO and everything else. We greatly appreciate it.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Women Helping Women, Lorraine?

MS. DYER: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MS. DYER: Yeah, Women Helping Women, I forgot that.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

MS. DYER: I totally support Bev and Lorna and what they do in helping the women here on Lanai 'cause that is something that's totally needed to be done. So, thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Herb Galindo?

NOTE: Pause while Mr. Galindo approached the mic.

MR. GALINDO: . . . Aloha. My name is Herb Galindo. I represent the Lanai MEO Senior Club here in Lanai. We have a total of 175 members. Unfortunately, not everybody is here tonight. But the ones, we are here, we. . .we sing together as we represent our Senior Club and community as the kupunas on Lanai. First of all, we'd like to thank you for providing MEO Transportation for our seniors. We are blessed that we can go to. . .we can go to Maui and. . .and do excursions as we did one this Thursday. We went to the aquarium, so we had a lot of fun. It was great. Thank you for providing a way to get to our new senior center to have a nutrition [*sic*] lunch. Thank you for supporting MEO Transportation, providing a way to doctor's appointments, dialysis, grocery stores, post office, banks, and some of the ladies that like to go to the beauty shop also.

ALL: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

MR. GALINDO: Thank you for say. . .thank you for saying "yes" and allowing MEO to provide us with transportation as we know. . .as we now have three. . .three days in Maui. . .shopping days. And this provides for different pay periods, so it's been. . .it's been a blessing. We also like to thank all of the Council, Councilor members, Council members. And that we ask they continue to support MEO. We need MEO to keep running on Lanai. Without MEO help, provision, some of us wouldn't be standing here tonight. MEO gives us hope, makes us. . .makes us strong and

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makes us live good in Lanai. We would like to, also like to stand. . .in support the Youth Centers who have done much for our children and have helped us in our visiting seniors from Maui. Our seniors also support CDFL, and this program has helped some ways and our kupuna's needs. We thank you for. . .for our support, a new senior center building and beautiful. Mahalo and _____ gracious, mucho gracious.

ALL: . . .(laughter). . .

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: You're welcome.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier?

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Seeing none, thank you. Lorna Sanchez?

NOTE: Pause while Ms. Sanchez approached the mic.

MS. SANCHES: . . . Hi, aloha and welcome to Lanai. My name is Lorna Sanchez and I'm the Teen Advocate for the dating violence program here on Lanai. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify in support of Women Helping Women and the teen victims program. I thank you for all of your support over the years. As a teen advocate, I work with teens on a weekly basis that have been victims of domestic violence and/or teen dating violence. I have three powerful written testimonies from three young women that I work with in school. And I would like read excerpts from their testimony.

This one is from a 16-year old female who is currently in the 11th grade. "The teen dating violence program has helped me tremendously. You see, I was a victim of dating violence. I was in a violent relationship when I started working with the teen advocate, Aunty Lorna--moi--and attending group sessions last school year. Attending group sessions made me realize that I was not alone and that there was help and resources to address my situation. Through the dating violence program, I was able to break free from my abuser. It made me a stronger person, gave me self-esteem, and brought awareness of the cycle of dating violence. I am grateful to Aunty Lorna, the teen dating violence program, and Women Helping Women for all their support and understanding."

*My next excerpt is also from a teen female who's 17 years old. And she says, "I am a female and attend Lanai High School. I have been working with Aunty Lorna and attending the dating violence program since last school year. Though I am not a **victim** of dating violence, I am a victim of domestic abuse. I have witnessed and experienced domestic abuse at home. Coming from a home of domestic violence I was afraid that I would end up in a dating violence situation. I was afraid that the cycle of abuse would continue. As you know, statistics show that females that come from a home of domestic violence have a greater chance of becoming a victim of violence themselves. Without education and awareness, the cycle of abuse would continue.*

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Weekly group sessions have made me more aware of dating violence and abuse. It has given me the knowledge and skills needed to choose healthy relationships over abusive ones. I ask for your support of the teen advocate position and the continuation of the teen dating violence program here on Lanai.”

And I have one more excerpt. It says, “*Since attending group, I have changed my relationship status. In the beginning of group, I was dating an older, harsh male, and he talked down to me. Although he never hit me, he always found a way for me to be afraid of what he’d do if I didn’t do things, quote/unquote, his way. In group, we go over the cycle of tension building, explosion, and the honeymoon phase. We go over examples of what domestic violence is--and it’s not only physical abuse but mental, emotional. . .and emotional as well. I saw myself in this position and I wasn’t happy. I knew it was unhealthy. And going to group gave me the strength to know my self-worth and end the relationship. I ask for your continued support of Women Helping Women, my position as an advocate for teen dating violence, LARC, Keiki O Lanai Preschool, Lanai Youth Center, MEO, and all the other organizations that help the youth and give them something to do every day.”*

And I thank you for my testimony.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Stacey Purdy? Stacey?

NOTE: Pause while Ms. Purdy approached the mic.

MS. PURDY: . . . Aloha. Good evening, Council, Budget Chair Pontanilla, and fellow Council members. Welcome to Lanai. My name is Stacey Purdy and I am the Board Treasurer for E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai Preschool. I would like to extend our appreciation for your past and current support of this crucial early childhood education program. As you know, Keiki O Lanai is our only preschool here on the island. Funding from the County of Maui has helped keep this program sustainable and thriving. However, the past few years have been hard on our program. Last year, unfortunately, we had to lay off three of our employees, of which two were teacher aides. This was for program survival. Keiki O Lanai balanced their budget with the layoffs, mandatory parent volunteer hours, and dividing up three laid off positions’ work on the remaining staff with no additional pay. We are very fortunate to have the dedicated, hardworking staff that we do. Our leader and program administrator, Gail Shin, works long hours with no complaints, just love and welfare for our children in mind. We are asking for your support of the line item request in the Housing and Human Concerns budget. This funding is 45 percent of our total budget. So we’re asking for seventy-six, five. . .76,500 which is about 45 percent County supported. We currently receive other funding through the USDA Food Program, funding private foundations, scholarships, and fundraising efforts by our hardworking

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staff, dedicated parents, and our volunteer board. During these hard economic times, we need to put our tax dollars into programs with great return on County investment. The return on investment in early childhood education is well documented. Many people ask me why am *I* still involved with Keiki O Lanai Preschool. My children are 11 and 9 . . . *(laughter)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: . . . *(laughter)* . . .

MS. PURDY: And my answer is, I believe in this program and I appreciate the hardworking, dedicated, professional staff. It is my time to give back to this organization who has given so much to my children and boosting their self-esteem and getting them ready for elementary school. One is almost gonna be middle school. Once again, we come before you to ask for your continued support to the littlest of our Lanai citizens, to give them a great head start in life. I would also like to state my personal support to Women Helping Women, for it's very difficult for the victims of domestic violence to come forward and testify; CDFL, so they can continue to . . . assist our youth with their activities. Please continue to support the Lanai Community Health Center so they can help our hurting families in this challenging times; the MEO and, of course, so that we can support our treasured seniors. Thank you for this opportunity to speak on behalf of the valuable programs that I have just shared with you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Next one is Gail--

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --followed by Tessie.

MS. SHIN: . . . Welcome, everyone, and good evening. I am Gail Shin, as you know, Program Administrator at E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai Preschool. And I want to thank you for your past and current support of our program, MEO Head Start with whom we have a partnership, and also the various Lanai programs that you have supported through the years. At Keiki O Lanai, we are a caring, learning environment with many learning experiences for young children. They learn about themselves, others, life values and how to learn as they develop socially, emotionally, and cognitively. The early years prepare them to be successful as students and members of our society. Families today have many challenges with unpredictable work hours, family transitions, and life challenges. Your support has enabled us to maintain our tuition rate for the past three years. We have not increased it, although there have been many increases for our preschool as far as our every day operations. Today 81 percent of our current families receive financial assistance towards tuition. These families' portion of tuition payment becomes affordable because we have not raised our tuition, allowing children to have valuable preschool experiences. In return, parents partner with us in maintaining our facility and are involved more in their child's education in the classroom and also in take-home projects. We are also a voice for family concerns and needs as we partner with the various programs and agencies in our community. So I ask that you consider our line item request for 76,500 and your continued support for the community programs for they contribute to our quality of life on Lanai. And I'd

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also like to say that we would. . .we would like to be at your grants review on April 23rd and 24th, unfortunately, none of our Board Members or myself are able to be there. In fact, we have a very big upcoming trip to Maui. Our school and parents. . .all of our children and parents are going to the Maui Ocean Center. So as Coordinator of this large event, it's happening on April 24th, so I'm unavailable to go to this review. So if you have any questions at this time, I would be happy to answer them or if any questions arise during your review, I would welcome any emails and I could respond then. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you for telling us that--

MS. SHIN: You're welcome.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --because as we go around the, especially on Molokai we said that, you know, I know it's really expensive to go to Maui. . .especially on Molokai, so whatever testimony that you folks provide us, we will take that into heart, like all of the testimony. And we understand the hardship in regards to getting to Maui, especially when you have another trip coming on. So thank you for your testimony. Next testifier is Tessie Morimoto.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I'd like to ask her one . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, okay.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: You know one thing that we take pride and I took pride in advocating for you is that you were an accredited preschool program.

MS. SHIN: Uh-huh.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Have you folks been able to maintain your accreditation?

MS. SHIN: We are not currently accredited. When we came up for reaccreditation, that was two years ago, because many of the standards and criteria had changed, especially due to the facilities, personally I felt that we needed to improve and work on our program. I feel that our curriculum, in many areas we do meet the standards and criteria, and we've always tried to not just maintain what we have but to. . .to strive to be even better. We are currently in the process--we have been for the last two years--on improving our aging facility, which we rent from the Lanai Union Church. At one time, we were part of B-20 project which, of course, has taken a, you know, we didn't do probably. . .the maintenance or. . .that we would have done, it, because we felt we would be part of this plan, which obviously is not gonna happen right now. But we have replaced a lot of our facility fencing. We have a very large project. We also replaced our bathroom and kitchen fixtures. This coming summer while we are closed, we're actually going to be working on part of our building.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay. Well, I would think you need to also make us aware of some of the additional needs because I believe accreditation is a very--

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MS. SHIN: Right, and we are in the--

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --useful thing, yeah.

MS. SHIN: We are, actually, in the accreditation program and we are supported by HCAP so we, they're aware of our progress as we continue to work towards being reaccredited.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Okay, thank you very much. We'll be very, hope you're very successful.

MS. SHIN: Thanks.

MS. PURDY: Riki, just also to get reaccredited, it is a long process and many things you need to comply with. Losing our staff, two of our staffers has put on more work and more things for other. . .of our other staff had to take upon, which gave them *less* time to prepare and get ready for this accreditation. So, hopefully, we can get things together and can get back on track.

MS. SHIN: That's our big goal.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Good.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MS. SHIN: I mean, that's always been our goal.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Tessie Morimoto, followed by Toni Baza.

MS. MORIMOTO: Good evening, Committee Chair and Members of the Budget and Finance Committee. I am Tessie Zarsosa Morimoto here on behalf of E Malama I Na Keiki O Lanai as a member of the Board. As you know, Keiki O Lanai is our island's only preschool and we do appreciate the support that you've shown to the school over the years as well as to Lanai's other programs and projects. We're very hopeful that you'll continue to champion the needs of our community, and particularly for the funding for the preschool. As a member of the Board for the past few years, I've watched the Board, our school teachers, our Administrator, and parents work very hard to meet the challenge that every one's been facing--which is to, of course, make do with less, do more with less. Board members who don't even have a *child* in preschool, you know, have been helping with fundraisers; parents are maintaining the playground and washing walls; teachers are cleaning the restrooms; our Administrator fetches the children's lunches from down the street. I saw her today in the rain doing this. You know, so everyone pitches in. Everyone is going above and beyond to keep our preschool running and thriving. Also, I am a parent of not only a *past* student of Keiki O Lanai, I am also the parent of a *current* student of Keiki O Lanai, and the parent of a future student for Keiki O Lanai . . . (*laughter*) . . . So I truly

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appreciate the lengths to which our teachers and our Executive Director goes through to ensure that our children will be able to matriculate successfully into kindergarten and the greater world. Your continued support for the preschool's requested appropriation in the Budget is very much needed not only for my children but for the sake of all Lanai's children and their families. Thank you very much for hearing our concerns and for being here in person to hear them. And while I was sitting here, I was amazed to realize that as person after person went to testify that, ooh, I support that and oh, I support them, too. And personally, I just want to really quickly explain why I do. I am one of your County employees under the Maui Police Department and we do work very closely with the CDFL, as well as Women Helping Women, and even LARC under our Animal Control Program. And I can testify for the great need that we have for these. . . programs. As a parent and a community member, we've also benefitted from the Lanai Youth Center as well as the MEO program so I ask that you please continue to support these programs. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you for volunteering . . . *(laughter)* . . .

MS. MORIMOTO: . . . *(laughter)* . . .

AUDIENCE: . . . *(laughter)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Toni?

MS. BAZA: Hi, my name is Toni Baza. I am a resident with Lanai, and I currently have my youngest here, as you can see, Dylan. . . with the MEO Head Start Program. So I *really* appreciate that guys have given me the ability to be able to have my child in school and allowing *me* to work. And my other son who did attend last, couple of years ago through a scholarship, through the Preschool, you know, it allowed me to have time with my younger son and my daughter who is older. So, I really appreciate that you guys have allowed and have funded the MEO Head Start Program, as well as Keiki O Lanai Preschool. So I just wanted to share my experience with that. If it wasn't for the MEO Head Start, I would *not* have been able to *work* and been able to support my family as well as, you know, things for my kids and pay our bills, things like that. So it's great, much mahalo. You know, it comes in such a big deal, I mean, the littlest goes the farthest. So as you can see, my children are very active--

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: . . . *(laughter)* . . .

MS. BAZA: --and . . . *(laughter)* . . . you know with my son, which I have experienced, that being at the Preschool, going into kindergarten has helped him *tremendously* compared to other kids who were not able to attend preschool. He has so much more experience and he already knows how to do things. And I mean, it's such a great deal for you guys to be funding the MEO Head Start as well as, you know, the Preschool itself, and we really do appreciate that. As a community, we thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Mr. Victorino?

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: What your son's. . .in the orange, what is his name?

MS. BAZA: In orange, this is Dylan Baza.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Dylan, how many of us? You counted four times up and down.
How many of us?

AUDIENCE: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I was watching you count. So you tell me, how many of us?

MS. BAZA: How many people? You can say . . .*(inaudible)*. . . You not, you're not saying?

MASTER BAZA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Go ahead, Dylan?

MASTER BAZA: No.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: No? Awe, Dylan--

ALL: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --that was your chance. Thank you very much.

MS. BAZA: Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MS. BAZA: Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, again.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Butch Gima?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. BAZA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .*(laughter)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

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MR. GIMA: . . . Good evening, Councilors. I'm here tonight on behalf of Lanai Changes. It's a CDC-type organization that we're trying to form on Lanai. We've been meeting for about 12 months and the initial reason why this group met was to help lot of the organizations that are here this evening, the nonprofits, to kind of kungpung their resources and look at obtaining a *huge* grant for the community as opposed to individual nonprofits going to the different funders. So that's how it started out and we brought funders to the island last year. And since we have been meeting, we've also, the . . .the second thing that we're trying to do is to focus on the long-term economic viability of our island. And we're looking at it from a *macro* point of view, looking at some policy decisions on what's going to be the economic engine for Lanai. As a result, we're asking the County for a one-year allocation of \$50,000. And that is part of a total one-year budget of \$87,500. The other monies, we are hoping to get from other sources. We're going to be submitting a grant through the Lanai Community Benefit Fund to pay for operating expenses and equipment. Kay Okamoto and Robin Kay who've . . .who spearheaded this effort, and myself will be going to Oahu on May 8th and we're going to be meeting with a number of foundations and possible funders. And we're hoping to get some monies from *them* to make up the other thirty-seven fifty. One of the ideas . . .in asking for the monies from the County is we have found that when ventures like this happen, once we get the *initial* amount of money, a lot of the others will then want to jump in. But many of the funders don't want to be that . . .that initial funder. So we're hoping that you guys can kick start this venture because we have to focus on the economy of this island. We have to look at it from a macro point of view--not so much funding this business or funding this business, but looking at is the business model going to be the hotels and having supplemental businesses feed into the hotels or are we going to be looking at two or three major businesses that are going to employ 200 people each or are we going to be looking at a business model where we have a hundred small businesses operating, I mean, employing four to five people. It's really tough for us because we don't have the critical mass; we cannot utilize the economies of scale. And so this, we *need* an entity that will address these economic issues on a *daily* basis. And that's why we're asking the funding. And we've already talked to Castle & Cooke and they . . .they are in support of this. And, in fact, a office space just became available up in the Dole admin. building, and they are willing to possibly hold it for us. And so part of the funding, if given to us by the County, will be used to help pay for the lease and equipment. And the idea, again, is to bring on staff so that we can deal with this on a daily basis and then we have the visibility of a CDC-type of organization. On that note, we have begin to partner with Lokahi Pacific. We've been communicating with --

MR. KANESHINA: Three minutes.

MR. GIMA: --Susie Thieman and we're hoping that we can be an affiliate of Lokahi Pacific so that we don't have to start from scratch as a 501. If we come under them as an umbrella, they can help us, get us long . . .and with their visibility, I think it will help us when we go to Oahu on May 8th and say, you know, we can . . .if we have the support of Lokahi Pacific, the County of Maui. . .then I think we'll be doing pretty good with the funders on . . .on . . .the island of Oahu.

. . . I have a packet of support letters that was sent to Lokahi Pacific, and they include many of the organizations here--the Preschool, Women Helping Women, the Maui. . .uh, the Arts Center,

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the Lanai Community Health Center, the Lanai Cultural and Heritage Center, Lanaians for Sensible Growth, Ke Ola Hou, Lanai Community Associations, and Friends of Lanai--to name a few. There are many other organizations that have been participating in this endeavor and we hope to bring on many more of these organizations in town. I'll stop right here for now.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good. Thank you. Members, questions?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: What was that?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MR. GIMA: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Andrew Delacruz--

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: --followed by Frances Waite.

MR. DELACRUZ: Hello, Council. My name is Drew Delacruz. I'm here for the Community Health Center, I'm with their Board. And I'm here to ask that you fund our . . .our line item request for \$75,000. And our . . .our Behavioral Health Program, I believe, is the only one on this island. . .this island right now. And . . .I think their first year of operation was 2010, uh, 9. From 2009 to 2010, they went from one patient to 300, and last year they had . . .635 . . .hundred . . .people. So it seems that we have a . . .well, we have a demand for this service. And anyway, and through these numbers. . .in, in the last . . .two years, our . . .our rate of uninsured patients had increased by 45 percent. And of these patients that are being billed, we, we're only able to collect a fraction of what they are billed for. Like I think in 2009, they collected 7 percent. And 2011, they collected . . .I think 38 percent. So, although there's a demand and there's a service, there's no return to *sustain* these services. So we'll be very grateful if you would . . .if you would consider our request and . . .and give us some funding. Because . . .because our State is not really . . .well, providing much help right now, yeah. So I'm, we're depending our, our own, on our own County to support our County members right now. And . . .in ending, I would like to . . .to thank you for all the . . .for all your past help and for your future help. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you.

MR. DELACRUZ: Okay, thank you.

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AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The next testifier is Frances Waite. Members, Frances is the last person to provide public testimony. If there's anyone that wanna provide testimony, please sign up with our Secretary here.

MS. WAITE: Aloha!

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aloha.

MS. WAITE: Almost done, almost done . . .(*laughter*). . . Okay, so I'm here with Lanai Pop Warner Association and I'm here just because I wanted to thank you guys for your support of a couple of . . .a good handful, actually. The transportation that's provided for our youth and for our community sports, specific, especially from MEO Transportation. They were a tremendous help to us last season. I anticipate that they'll be again a tremendous help to, not just us, but. . .for example this weekend we have a big wrestling tournament coming in. All the vans are like *totally* helping with. . .from MEO to CDFL to. . .the Lanai Youth Center are all helping to provide van service. But MEO Maui really did help Lanai Pop Warner last year with that. I also wanted to. . .please ask for support in developing the multi-purpose field here on Lanai. It is a line item on your Budget. And our. . .one of our parents. . .*wonderful* volunteer system has been working with Chad and the. . .team over there with Parks and Recreation to kind of incorporate both the football field and as, if I'm not mistaken, our softball field through that budget line as well. And thank you very much for that. I also wanted to again show my support for CDFL and. . .through the Lanai Youth Center who helps us with funding when we're looking for fundraising for our Lanai Pop Warner. . .and all of the other programs who grow our youth into positive, healthy. . .into a positive health. . .*positive* healthy direction which include our Lanai Art Center which gives our kids tons to do with the ukulele and cultural expansion that they've been reaching out for and the new multi. . .the new media programs that they've been trying to incorporate with the Lanai. . .Community College substation here. The. . .the Preschool, of course, always has my support, as does the Community Health Center.

. . . The one thing that I, I don't know if it's appropriate that I mention right now, but the one thing I did want to talk about besides the transportation and the multi-purpose field was Department of Land and Natural Resources. Um. . .it's been a year now since. . .my, died, partner died. And he was hit by the boat out in Kaunalapau. And the boats are still coming in pretty close and speeding through quite fast. And so I just wanted to bring it to somebody's attention 'cause I missed the DLNR meeting. . .last time they were here. So in support of that--public service announcement kind of. . .thing. And that brings me to my end. I hope you guys have a wonderful night.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, questions for the testifier? Seeing none--

MS. WAITE: I talk fast.

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CHAIR PONTANILLA: Oh, hang on.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: I don't have a question. You know, I, I just want to let you know that. . .the Council supported, yeah, by my request. . .we did send a Resolution to the State Legislature to address the concern of. . .you know your, your friend, our friend and neighbor. . .regarding that, you know, very sad situation. Because you know West Maui also lost a West Maui resident with that boating situation.

MS. WAITE: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: So I can tell you that. . .you know the State Senate and the House of Representatives people like, you know, Mele Carroll, Shan Tsutsui. . .they're taking this very seriously and the State is working. . .they're going to do a Task Force. They are working on creating a program to address better diver safety, swimming safety. And so I want you to know it hasn't been forgotten because there's, you know, the people feel the pain--

MS. WAITE: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: --and we understand that we need to be doing this job a lot better. So. . .I wanted to let you know it *hasn't* been forgotten. We are moving to. . .improve the situation.

MS. WAITE: Yeah. To add to that, the widow of. . .of the gentleman who was lost out here, she's planning on. . .on her own. . .soliciting people from within the industry to do a diver awareness class. And every year on his birthday she's planning on giving away six dive floats, a spear, flags, and doing a. . .doing a class of some sort. So we're working on our end to kind of bring out diver awareness as well.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: And thank you for your help.

MS. WAITE: Uh-huh.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Is there anyone in the audience that haven't provided public testimony at this time that would like to provide public testimony?

. . . Seeing none coming up, Members, since there's no other testimony to be taken, the. . .before I close this meeting I just want to thank all of you for coming here tonight to provide your testimony on the Mayor Arakawa's Fiscal Year 2013 Budget. We get all of the information that

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we receive from all of the district meetings that we've gone through, and each of us will surely look at all of the requests and . . .some time in May we should be completed . . .*(laughter)* . . . with the Budget for Maui County. So, again, you know I really want to thank all of you for being here tonight. With that, this Budget meeting for April 13th, 2012 is now adjourned. . . .*(gavel)* . . .

COUNCIL MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS. (excused: DAM)

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

ADJOURN: 7:28 p.m.

APPROVED:


JOSEPH PONTANILLA, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

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Transcribed by: Jo-Ann Sato