



## Maui County Council on Aging

CAMERON CENTER • 95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX (808) 270-7935

### COUNCIL ON AGING (COA)

February 9, 2021

12:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via BlueJeans Video/Teleconference

Meeting Link: <https://bluejeans.com/787545381?src=calendarLink>

**Call to Order: 12:32 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Mei Lani Aki, Chair Debbie Cabebe, Doreen Forsberg, Arleen Gerbig, Agnes Groff, Brian Hauser, Judy Mikami, Miguel Morales, Lois Prey, Ed Romson, Leonardo Sequeira, Katherine Smith

**Members Excused:** Vice Chair Yuki-Lei Sugimura

**Members Absent:** Vivian Lindsey, Susan Lussier

**Guests Present:** None

**County Staff Present:** Vicki Belluomini (Maui County Office on Aging--MCOA), Sanya Lucas (MCOA) Kevin Dusenbury, Jr (MCOA), James Mariano (MCOA), Deborah Stone-Walls (MCOA), Claudette Medeiros (MCOA), Daniel Kunkel (Deputy Corporation Counsel), Kristi Isikawa (MCOA), Auli'i Dean (MCOA Student Intern)

| Topic/Agenda Item   | Discussion   | Action  |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Call to Order  | Chair Debbie Cabebe called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.                                |   |
| 2. Roll Call of Council on Aging Members                                | Chair Debbie Cabebe conducted Roll Call.   |   |
| 3. Introduction of County staff and members of the public in attendance | County staff introduced themselves. There were no members of the public in attendance.       |   |
| 4. Approval of Minutes: October 13, 2020 & December 15, 2020            | Members reviewed the October 13, 2020 meeting minutes and December 15, 2020 meeting minutes. | Councilmember Prey moved to approve the October minutes; Councilmember Aki seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Councilmember Romson moved to approve the December minutes; Councilmember Prey |



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|  |   | seconded. Motion carried unanimously.  |
| 5. Public Testimony on Agenda Items  | None. Chair Debbie Cabebe called for a motion to close testimony as no testifiers were present.   | Councilmember Prey moved to close public testimony;<br>Councilmember Sequeira seconded.<br>Motion carried unanimously. |
| 6. Mahalo to the COA members who will be leaving us in March. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mei Lani Aki</li> <li>• Brian Hauser</li> <li>• Lois Prey</li> <li>• Ed Romson</li> </ul> | Executive on Aging Deborah Stone-Walls expressed thanks and appreciation for the years of service and input into the Council on Aging. She acknowledged that some members expressed desire to return to service on the COA or the Commission on Persons with Disabilities that the Division also assists and indicated that MCOA looks forward to the opportunity to continue working with the outgoing members in the future. Deborah stated that the work of the COA is important and the contribution from the members is invaluable. She indicated that the individuals leaving the Council are welcome to contact MCOA to continue to provide feedback and input regarding services for seniors in Maui County.  |  |
| 7. Outstanding Older Americans Month - May   | Deborah Stone-Walls described this year's plan. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Virtual Platform – Everything will be virtual. Ceremony will be May 6, 2021 and it will be one hour long. The State will have a virtual ceremony for all county winners on June 4, 2021.</li> <li>b. Nomination forms – MCOA is ready to hand out forms.</li> <li>c. Call for COA volunteers to be judges – Doreen Forsberg, Catherine Smith, Debbie Cabebe, Mei Lani Aki</li> </ol>  |  |
| 8. Group discussion on COVID-19 vaccination process for seniors  | Deborah Stone-Walls explained that MCOA is receiving many calls daily from folks wanting the vaccine. In the next couple of weeks, Dr. Pang and his teams will be doing vaccination clinics onsite at Hale Mahaolu senior housing facilities and MCOA staff is volunteering at these clinics. MCOA will also begin working with Minit Medical to begin running through the lists of seniors who have called the office for assistance. Chair Debbie Cabebe spoke more on this process and indicated that MEO was contacted and asked to contact the seniors on the lists MEO provided who are mostly the MEO Maui County P&CC members. MEO contacted 53 members for upcountry and there will be a vaccination onsite upcountry on Friday; 25 seniors in Lahaina that will be participating in a community vaccination clinic in Lahaina on Thursday; 17 seniors in Kihei that will be getting a |  |



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|                          | <p>vaccination at a clinic in Kihei; and is in the process of calling 123 kupuna in Kahului to participate in a vaccination clinic in Kahului on Thursday. All clinics are hosted by Minit Medical. There had a limited amount of vaccines, so MEO received instructions regarding how many seniors that are 75 and over who could be contacted. MEO was told to ask if seniors wanting the vaccination had any allergies or needed transportation for prescreening purposes. The MEO transportation team is now circling back to make sure people have rides to the various clinics. MEO is also doing transportation to the hospital for vaccines for those in need, and the hospital is working with MEO to coordinate the rides. Councilmember Romson brought up the vaccine hesitancy issue and asked if MCOA has thought of getting information out to the community that could mitigate some of the hesitancy. Deborah Stone-Walls agreed it is an issue and explained that the Director of the Hawaii State Executive Office on Aging, AAA directors and AARP are meeting weekly to put together a consistent message for statewide distribution and PSAs will be coming out very soon. Chair Debbie Cabebe mentioned that MEO encountered very little hesitancy during the calls they made to seniors, but there was some. Councilmember Aki talked about the new UK variant and the J&amp;J vaccine, and asked the group about adverse reactions. Chair Debbie Cabebe replied with she has heard a few comments regarding minimal side effects that are generally gone within 24 hours. Councilmember Forsberg thanked MCOA and MEO for working to get the seniors vaccinated. Councilmember Sequeira asked about the follow-up process to make sure folks get their second shot. Chair Debbie Cabebe responded that Minit Medical is giving out a vaccination card to each person with the second appointment already scheduled and also sent a list of confirmed appointments to Chair Cabebe. Councilmember Smith reported that she had spoken to an essential worker who had a reaction after the second shot. Councilmember Groff said two of her daughter-in-laws and a neighbor who is a frontline nurse took the shots, and they all seemed to be fine. Although they reported some sore muscles and a slight fever, within 24 hours they were fine.</p> |  |
| 9. Regional/Area Reports | a. Hana: COVID-19 testing and update; Senior Service Provider Status – Read by MCOA staff Vicki R. Belluomini:<br><br><b>COVID-19:</b> Free COVID-19 Drive Thru Testing Events were held in Hana on Wednesday November 18, 2020 and Saturday December 5, 2020. The November Event resulted in  |  |



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one positive case of a person who was asymptomatic during test. The person was quarantined and suspected exposed individuals were contacted by the Department of Health. Of the approximately 100 individuals tested in December all were negative.

**Hana Senior Service Providers:** No significant changes since October Report.

**Hale Hulu Mamo Hana Senior Center** remains open. **Kaunoa Senior Services** are delivering meals to the Hana participants of the Meals on Wheels and Congregate Meals programs.

**Hui No Ke Ola Pono** staff continues to deliver meals to Kupuna who live in the outlying communities of Hana district.

**Ohana Makamae** continues to distribute Maui Food Bank boxes to Seniors every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.

**MEO Transportation** continues to provide shuttling service to the Kahului/Wailuku area as well as in Hana town. All agencies continue to do their best in complying with COVID-19 Guidelines.

- b. Lanai: Food programs; Telehealth; COVID testing and vaccinations. Report by Councilmember Mei Lani Aki:

Lanai senior center MOW is serving about 117 people. The Catholic Church food bank and MEO distributed food from the food bank surplus. Local farms on Lanai are providing produce every other Tuesday from 3-4pm that is delivered door-to-door via MEO employees and volunteers. Both Straub Lanai Family Health Center and Lanai Community Health Center have online telehealth in place and provide COVID testing and vaccinations. Residents must register to get the vaccine and they are currently scheduling first responders and anyone 65 and older.

- c. Molokai: Molokai Rural Health Community Association current focus on kupuna; CARES program updates. Report by Councilmember Judy Mikami:

Home Pumehana senior housing residents were vaccinated last week by the Dept. of Health (DOH). Between the DOH



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and Molokai General Hospital (MGH) the process has been going really well. For DOH it is by appointment only for 65 and older and essential workers. MGH is first come, first served. No bad reactions have been reported by Molokai residents so far.

Although the Molokai Rural Health Community Association (MRHCA) has not been meeting in person or through web-based technology at this time, any updates have been done via email or text. Focusing on kupuna is still the priority, and MRHCA has been in contact with Jane Burigsby with the Social Security Administration who has shared information. Jane offered to give updates via Zoom and/or by sending printed material. MRHCA works with the Area Health Education program under the University of Hawaii which provides health education for rural areas. Some High School students in health career programs have been teaching kupuna how to use an iPad so they can be less isolated and can connect with family via Facetime. The intergenerational programs are important.

Through the CARES program, Molokai has had several opportunities to support the community with distributing food in drive-through settings, conducting home delivery of produce and meals, providing of a variety of vegetables and seeds to plant gardens, holding virtual workshops on gardening, and most recently, sponsoring a gift certificate project for 625 seniors over 60 will be able to use gift certificates to pay for co-pays, purchase personal care items, purchase items/supplies for repair and maintenance of their homes, and purchase their own food items and personal care items, such as PPEs and cleaning supplies.

- d. Veterans: Status of Maui Office; Veterans' Day Celebration. Report by Councilmember Ed Romson:

Office of Veterans' Services is open and fully functioning with the exception that they cannot see veterans face-to-face. They are assisting veterans and their families via phone, fax, email & snail mail. For more information contact Karen Mahoe. Phone 808.369.3541; Fax 808.873.3147; Email [karen.m.mahoe@hawaii.gov](mailto:karen.m.mahoe@hawaii.gov).

Hale Makua Health Services held a socially distanced Veterans' Day Celebration to honor all of the residents who have served.



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### 10. Maui County Office On Aging Report

- a. Staffing Updates by Executive Deborah Stone-Walls: MCOA has had five open positions so we're happy Kristi Ishikawa started with us on February 1, 2021. MCOA is waiting for a list of eligible candidates for the Lanai position. MCOA had to recruit twice for this position as there were no applicants the first time around. The recruitment closed in December and MCOA hopes to have applicants this time. The Division has three more Access and Assistance positions to be filled.

Access and Assistance staff members have been fielding over one hundred calls every single day and the office is at about twenty-five percent capacity with some of workers still working remotely from home. MCOA does plan, however, to bring folks back to the office because the volume of calls has been so heavy that all Access and Assistance staff are needed in the office to best respond to the public need. MCOA is reconfiguring the office space to ensure adequate distancing between staff members. Although current staff members are more than six feet apart, the office will need to be reconfigured prior to all A&A staff returning to the office space.

Interviews for the Secretary position will occur this week. The Division has been without a Secretary since last August.

MCOA is staying extremely busy, but the attitudes and atmosphere has been very positive and collaborative. MCOA employees sanitizing the office twice a day. Three-fourths of the staff members have received at least one vaccination. Of those three-fourths, one quarter has had the second vaccination already and the other half will receive second vaccinations next week. Therefore, about a quarter of the MCOA staff is still waiting for the vaccination. With such a high percentage of the MCOA staff vaccinated, the Division will be better able to help the seniors face-to-face and employees are excited to get back to being able to do that.

- b. Brief updates regarding program initiatives: Feeding Maui Nui, Furry Friends, PERS, Active Daily Living Website, Enhance@Fitness:
- Feeding Maui Nui: Deborah Stone-Walls reported the food truck voucher program is still going strong. MCOA is serving anywhere from 400 to 450 people every month with vouchers. This program is supporting the local businesses and giving people choice. The Division is currently spending approximately \$130,000 every month



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feeding seniors. When the pandemic began, food insecurity became one of the main issues for seniors. MCOA vastly increased the Home Delivered Meal Program both through Kaunoa and through Moms' Meals. Moms' Meals delivers up to seven meals a week for folks. The Division has almost tripled the number of people served in a normal year. MCOA received word today from the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging CEO that included in the newest rendition of the COVID aid bill will be a package of \$1.444 billion for Older Americans Act programs. The distribution of funding is as follows: \$750 million for nutrition programs; \$200 million for AAA's nationwide to assist in vaccination distribution; \$200 million for supportive services; and \$80 million for programs designed to reduce social isolation.

- **Active Daily Living:** Deborah Stone-Walls reported that MCOA's website has been revamped and now includes a program called Active Daily Living. Individuals can create a log in and create individualized weekly newsletters. There is both a newsletter for seniors and a newsletter for caregivers. Additionally, the site has Quick Care Tips. There is an extensive library that includes Age In Place guides. Individuals can delve deep in into any subject for either people that are getting older or people dealing with disabilities. The site provides videos and written articles and provides a whole range of options, both inexpensive and more costly options, to solve common problems. MCOA is proud to offer this website as a resource because of the thoroughness of information and the ability to be individualized.
- **Annual Report:** Deborah Stone-Walls explained that on the MCOA website under the Resources tab, the Division just uploaded the 2020 Annual Report. Kevin Dusenbury, Jr created what is called a Story Map. This approach to presenting data is a far more inviting way to present an annual report. The 2020 Annual Report includes the following sections: Our Team, About Us, Our Services, and Service Delivery Summaries. The Service Delivery Summaries section provides maps that present data by zip code. The map has a slider in the middle. If an individual slides the bar one way, the map displays the units provided; when slid in the other direction, the map displays the number of people served. The data is revealed by clicking the mouse on individual zip codes.
- **Enhance®Fitness (EF): Aging & Disability Program Specialist Claudette Medeiros** reported that the Division is



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|   | <p>still training EF Instructors to provide virtual classes. The Division hopes to launch the virtual classes by the end of February by starting one virtual class at a time. The goal is to have at least four classes broadcast by the end of March with at least ten to twelve participants in each class. MCOA continues to broadcast the fitness/wellness videos on Akaku on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9:00 am and 4:00 pm. There are currently seven videos in rotation being shown on Akaku, and the Division plans to produce additional videos to add to the rotation in the near future. The videos can also be viewed on YouTube by searching for “Kupuna in Motion.” Deborah Stone-Walls added that it is necessary to have two instructors conducting the virtual classes to maintain the fidelity of the evidence-based program. One instructor will be instructing and performing the actual exercise and the other instructor will closely observe all of the participants to watch for any possible signs of trouble. MCOA will limit classes to 10 participants so the squares on the BlueJeans video conferencing program will be a bit bigger on the screen and the EF Instructors can maintain visual contact with the seniors at all times.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PERS: Aging &amp; Disability Program Specialist Vicki Belluomini reported we are still waiting on Best Buy Health to set up meeting with MCOA for tablet configuration.</li> </ul> <p>c. Demonstration of Furry Friends: Presented by MCOA Practicum Student Auli’i Dean. Auli’i demonstrated how the robotic companion animals respond to light, sound, and touch and appear very life-like. MCOA is distributing three different colored cats, a dog and a kitten to seniors and family caregivers impacted negatively by social isolation requirements of the pandemic.</p> |  |
| <p>11. Upcoming Events: Members are encouraged to share any upcoming events known to be happening across Maui County over the next few months</p> | <p>a. None</p>   |  |
| <p>Agenda Items for Future Meetings</p>   | <p>a. RFP</p>  |  |



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|-------------------|---|---|
| Next Meeting Date | April 13, 2021 at 12:30pm. The meeting will most likely be done virtually, using video/teleconference technology, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. |   |
| Adjournment       | Chair Debbie Cabebe called for a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.  | Councilmember Aki moved to adjourn the meeting;<br>Councilmember Sequeira seconded. |

Submitted by Vicki R. Belluomini, 2/24/2021

DRAFT

## 2021 OUTSTANDING OLDER AMERICAN AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

### SELECTION OF MAUI COUNTY'S OUTSTANDING OLDER AMERICANS- "Communities of Strength"

#### PURPOSE

- To honor older adults who contributed significantly to improving community life
- To encourage participation in community activities
- To honor significant contributions provided by volunteer caregivers to the community
- To recognize the exploration of new interests, endeavors, and accomplishments.

#### ELIGIBILITY

- Nominees are desired from all segments of the community.
- While they may be members of senior clubs, churches or other organizations, it is not mandatory that the nominee belong to an organization.
- The nominee must be age 65 years or older and a resident of Maui, Molokai, or Lanai. Points will be awarded for services provided in the community after attaining age 60.
- The following are not eligible: Past award *winner*s (those who have been selected as the Outstanding Male or Female Older American of Maui County), Council on Aging Members, and Maui County Office on Aging staff.
- Nomination papers may be submitted by the candidate, another individual or an organization.

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**DEADLINE: Thursday, April 1, 2021 by 4:30pm**  
**Call 270-7755 to confirm receipt of forms.**

**Mail or Deliver Forms to:**  
**Maui County Office on Aging**  
**Attn: OOA Committee**  
**95 Mahalani Street, Room 20**  
**Wailuku, HI 96793**

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**2021 Virtual Awards Ceremony**  
**Thursday - May 6, 2021**  
**11:00 am to 12:00 pm**

*\*Details forthcoming\**

# NOMINATION APPLICATION

## Nominee's Information

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

M.I. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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## Nominator's Information

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

M.I. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

2<sup>nd</sup> Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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## Optional:

Nominator's Club or Organization Affiliation

\_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Club or Organization Affiliation

\_\_\_\_\_

MCOA CODE:

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
 MAUI COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING  
**NOMINATION FOR MAUI COUNTY'S  
 2021 OUTSTANDING OLDER AMERICAN AWARDS**

**NOMINEE'S AGE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BIRTH DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Must be 65 years or older)

**VOLUNTEER SERVICE, LEADERSHIP AND/OR CAREGIVING ACTIVITIES AFTER AGE 60**

List services the nominee provided to the community, friends, neighbors, and/or family members and the capacity in which nominee served after age 60, and the approximate hours per month. ***\*For judging purposes, please do NOT state nominee's name.***

| Service or Organization             | Position in which served<br>(example: president, founder,<br>officer, member, volunteer, or<br>volunteer supervisor) | Estimated Years of<br>Service | Estimated<br>Hours<br>Volunteered<br>Monthly |
|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| <i>Ex. Pacific Whale Foundation</i> | <i>Ex. Volunteer Educator</i>  | <i>Ex. 15 years</i>           | <i>Ex. 50 hours</i>                          |
|                                     |  |                               |  |
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|                                     |  |                               |  |
|                                     |  |                               |  |

MCOA CODE:

**HOW MANY PEOPLE WERE HELPED BY VOLUNTEER'S CARE, SERVICE OR ACTIVITIES?  
HOW WERE THEY HELPED? WHO BENEFITTED? Provide examples.**

*\*For judging purposes, please do NOT state nominee's name.*

**PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS AFTER AGE 60**

In the space below, provide brief information on the nominee's personal achievements, new activities or new occupations after age 60.

*\*For judging purposes, please do NOT state nominee's name.*

MCOA CODE:

**Explain why you feel this nominee deserves to be the Outstanding Older American 2021**

In the space below, provide your story, explanation, or justification in narrative form.

***\*For judging purposes, please do NOT state nominee's name. Replace nominee's name with "Nominee"***

MCOA CODE:

OPTIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

-- WILL NOT BE USED FOR JUDGING PURPOSES --

Nominee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthplace: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation(s) prior to age 60:

Special Interests or Hobbies:

Family History (spouse, children, etc.):

Explain why this person should be selected as the 2021 Outstanding Older American in Maui County

MCOA CODE: