

**COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI**  
**HOUSING AND**  
**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

November 18, 2005

**Committee**  
**Report No.**

05-156

Honorable Chair and Members  
of the County Council  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Housing and Human Services Committee, having met on November 3, 2005, makes reference to County Communication No. 05-252, from Councilmember Jo Anne Johnson, relating to the matter of long-term care in Maui County.

At its meeting, your Committee met with the Administrator, Long Range Planning Division, Department of Planning; a Deputy Corporation Counsel; Rita Barreras, Project Director, Maui Long Term Care Partnership (MLTCP); Tony Krieg, Chairman, MLTCP; John Tomoso, Leadership Member, MLTCP; Wesley Lo, Leadership Member, MLTCP; Ricardo Medina, Central Maui Regional Member, MLTCP; Sandy Freeman, Maui Adult Day Care, MLTCP; and John Schawmberg, Member, MLTCP.

Your Committee received public testimony from Karen Peterson representing Giving Back, a Hawaii nonprofit agency, fostering intergenerational relationships through mentoring and tutoring. She testified in support of the County's interest in seniors, and provided documents regarding Giving Back's program.

Your Committee received brochures entitled "Building a Model of Home and Community Based Services for Kupuna: Today and Tomorrow", which establishes priorities in long-term care for the six regions of Maui. Your Committee also received correspondence that included MLTCP's goals, strategies, partnership members and strategic plans; and the MLTCP Annual Report June 2005.

Mr. Tomoso, Mr. Krieg and Ms. Barreras provided your Committee with a computer-generated presentation entitled "Long Term Care in Maui County", which provided an overview of long-term care issues and statistics in Maui County, along with a printout of the presentation.

Mr. Tomoso, who is also from the Maui County Office on Aging, stated that one of the most important components of long-term care was allowing people to "age in place." He also stated that with age friendly planning that addresses the areas of housing, transportation, recreational/leisure activities, economic development, and health/social welfare, the County can have an intergenerational way of dealing with aging. Elders need to keep their independence, choice, and control as long as possible.

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Mr. Krieg stated that long-term care needed to be addressed in the affordable housing discussions and in the General Plan and Community Plan processes. He also stated that the number of people in the County over the age of 85 is going to drastically increase over the next 15 years, as the baby boomers age.

Ms. Barreras stated that the MLTCP has four main goals: improving access to information on long-term care; increasing awareness about aging; providing education and training to caregivers; and developing an organized infrastructure that meets the community's needs.

After the presentation, the partnership members had a panel discussion with your Committee on the General Plan process and the current challenges in planning for and providing long-term care.

MLTCP members stated that staffing is a major issue in determining appropriate residential facilities for elders once they cannot stay at home any longer. Sometimes beds are available, but staff is inadequate. They also stated that the families that provide care also need support if they are to continue giving that care without burning out.

Your Committee asked why Molokai and Lanai were not included in the partnership, or any of the plans that the partnership presented.

Mr. Krieg stated that when the partnership was formed, Lanai already had a plan in place and Molokai was not interested in participating at that time. He also stated that they would be happy to include Molokai and Lanai in the partnership.

Your Committee noted that the MLTCP provided very useful information for the Council and the general public.

Your Committee voted to recommend filing of the communication.

Your Housing and Human Services Committee **RECOMMENDS** that County Communication No. 05-252 be FILED.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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**DANNY A. MATEO** **Chair**

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**JO ANNE JOHNSON** **Member**

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**JOSEPH PONTANILLA** **Vice-Chair**

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**CHARMAINE TAVARES** **Member**

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**G. RIKI HOKAMA** **Member**