



**BIG  
ISLAND  
SUBSTANCE  
ABUSE  
COUNCIL**

Inspiring Change, Reclaiming Lives

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS, BISAC REMAINS A STALWART CHAMPION FOR OUR COMMUNITY'S WELL-BEING, FOUNDED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF HOPE AND COMPASSION. REVEREND LOWEN, A FOUNDING MEMBER, HIGHLIGHTED THE ORGANIZATION'S ENDURING COMMITMENT DURING HIS LAST VISIT. THE JOURNEY HAS BEEN TRANSFORMATIVE, ALLOWING BISAC TO ADAPT AND SECURE ITS PLACE FOR THE NEXT 60 YEARS. AS WE MARK THIS DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY, WE RECOMMIT TO OUR MISSION, EMBRACING CHANGE FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE. - DR. HANNAH PRESTON-PITA

# *February Newsletter*





# Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce

## Business After Hours



Our organization was privileged to host the Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce's January Business After Hours event. An amazing occasion where members had the opportunity to delve deeper into our services and see our mission and values in action. As we opened our doors, we shared with enthusiasm the various ways in which ways we actively contribute to and uplift our community.





As of February 1st, we proudly inaugurated our groundbreaking Social Detox Center, named Huliha Ke Ola—a pioneering establishment on the island of Hawaii. Situated strategically in the heart of Hilo, this center represents a significant addition to our services. Huliha Ke Ola is fully staffed with dedicated professionals, including case managers, peer specialists, a registered nurse, and its own clinical director. This cutting-edge facility is designed to cater to the needs of individuals in the crucial detoxification phase, particularly those experiencing withdrawals due to substance dependence.

# HULIHA KE OLA DETOX CLINIC



We specialize in managing withdrawals and coordinating medication prescribed by external physicians. By offering a comprehensive approach, we can now provide the full continuum of care, addressing not only the physical aspects but also the spiritual well-being of our clients. To enhance our holistic approach, we are proud to introduce innovative modalities such as acupuncture, aimed at assisting in managing cravings. We are the first detox clinic in the state to offer these progressive therapeutic options.



# Fentanyl Task Force

## Coalition & Engagement



On February 22nd and 23rd, the Hawaii Island Fentanyl Task Force played a pivotal role in fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing by hosting a comprehensive statewide coalition and engagement training. Representatives from various counties convened to glean insights from the experienced task force members, delving into effective strategies, meticulous planning, and the intricacies of developing their own task forces



This event served as a platform for cross-county learning and empowerment, equipping teams with the tools and expertise needed to address the challenges posed by the opioid crisis in their respective communities. The collaborative approach underscores a unified commitment to tackling the pervasive issue of fentanyl abuse and promoting collective efforts towards a safer and healthier Hawaii.



# FROM MESS TO MANAGER



## Former client achieves sobriety milestones, becoming a manager and securing his own apartment.



Kuuhauliakaleinani  
Giminiz

How did it feel first starting BISAC, and how has it changed?

“My whole plan from the beginning was to use it as a get out of jail free card. However, my mentality from then to now has shifted. BISAC really did save my life. The way I came to understand anything and everything about my sobriety isn’t because I have to, its because I want to for myself.

What from the program helped you the most?

“The first thing you put in front of your recovery will be the second thing that you lose.”

Can you share any lessons that you have learned so far?

“Leading by example. Show others that If I can do it, so can they.





# ACES

Always  
Claim  
Excellence  
In  
Sobriety

Mentorship

# Celebrating Recovery: One Event at a Time



On January 20th, our mentorship program, ACES, orchestrated more than just a typical softball game. It served as a unique occasion to commemorate resilience and foster unity within the recovery community. Participants not only showcased their athletic prowess but also celebrated the collective strength and support that defines our recovery journey. The event stood as a testament to the power of community in overcoming challenges and embracing a life of sobriety.

On February 24th, our mentorship program, ACES, ventured to the Kona coast for a beach cleanup initiative. This event symbolized our commitment to our personal recovery but also community well-being. The beach cleanup not only contributed to a cleaner environment but also highlighted the transformative impact that collective action can have on both individuals and the community at large.





# Team Member Of The Month

“He is a shining star who shines and inspires our team daily.” - Candace Kekauaulua



Lane is an ambitious and proactive individual, known for his unwavering passion in achieving goals aligned with our mission, vision, and values. His loyalty and commitment serve as an inspiration to those seeking growth. Beyond conventional artistic boundaries, Lane's creativity is evident in his innovative thinking, allowing him to tackle tasks and problems with a fresh perspective, generating new ideas.

**LANE  
MIYAKE-  
KAMAHELE**

Communications / Marketing Assistant