

'Imi Hale

Native Hawaiian Cancer Network
Newsletter



'Imi Hale
Native Hawaiian Cancer Network
A Program of Papa Ola Lōkahi

Aloha Kakou!

Malaki 2011



Ho'okele i ke Ola: Patient Navigation Training Highlights

by Elise Davis

At this past Cancer Patient Navigation training, faculty Chaplain Clarence Liu had the class imagine that they were staring out at a calm blue ocean. We all then took a "dive" into that ocean, going deep below. Despite the calm at the surface, underwater currents, life forms and a whole world invisible from above was in action. Chaplain Liu stated that, like the ocean, patients may exhibit the calmness at the surface despite having deep issues. It is the role of the navigator to "dive" deeply to understand and best assist the patients' needs. This exercise was one of the many experiences trainees participated in to further their understanding of the patient navigator's role.



Graduates of Jan/Feb 2011 Training

Over six days of lectures, discussion, facility tours, and role plays, trainees learned about a range of cancer topics, such as advances in cancer treatment, the function of the medical support team, barriers to care and other issues faced by patients, and services available to assist them. Trainees expressed great appreciation for

the wealth of information on the practical and emotional aspects of cancer shared by presenters.

Through the demand for and progress of Cancer Patient Navigation in Hawai'i, Ho'okele i ke Ola continues to develop and expand the program with curriculum additions, recruitment of new

faculty, increased number of trained navigators, and paid cancer patient navigator positions. There are now 11 paid positions in Hawai'i with the title **Cancer Patient Navigator**: 3 at Moloka'i General Hospital, 1 at Maui Memorial, 1 at Hilo Medical Center, and 6 at the Queen's Medical Center.

Milestones from our Recent Training:

- Clinical Trials and Nutrition modules were included in the curriculum and evaluated
- Two new kanaka maoli presenters joined our training faculty, Dr. Reni Soon and Dr. Keola Beale.
- Hilo Medical Center and Straub Clinic and Hospital sent trainees for the first time.
- 16 new navigators were trained, bringing us to 121 Ho'okele i ke Ola graduates.



Ho'okele i ke Ola Retrospective by Amanda Allison

The Ho'okele i ke Ola patient navigation training program was two years old when I joined 'Imi Hale, and navigator training had been going on for almost a year. The conceptual work and initiating phase of the project were complete. Apart from my admiration

of what had been created, I was impressed that Hawai'i's first and only patient navigation training program rose out of, and was fed by, community relationships and partnerships. To this day, this example of Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) continues the commitment to

satisfy the community in the same vein as it started.

In my first week on the job, I helped coordinate O'ahu site visits for the Maui navigator trainees, continuing education sessions for trained navigators, and a community progress report.

(continued on page 2)

‘Imi Hale Nā Liko Noelo Feature:

Maile Tauali‘i, PhD

Native Hawaiian Epidemiology Center, Papa Ola Lōkahi



Dr. Maile Tauali‘i received her PhD in Health Services, with an emphasis in Public Health Informatics and Public Health Genetics from the University of Washington, where she also completed her Master's degree in Public Health. Dr. Tauali‘i is the founding Director of the Native Hawaiian Epidemiology Center housed at Papa Ola Lōkahi. The Native Hawaiian Epidemiology Center performs targeted and coordinated epidemiological investigations. It also works in partnership with communities, agencies, health officials, and others in crafting strategic interventions to retard or reverse health problems.

Prior to returning to Hawai‘i, Dr. Tauali‘i was the Scientific Director for the Urban Indian Health Institute, an Indian Health Service designated Tribal Epidemiology Center. She is the recipient of a Bioinformatics/Public Health Informatics Fellowship and has expertise in development, evaluation, and utilization of data and data systems.

A primary research focus for Dr. Tauali‘i is the utility and validity of health information for racial minorities. Dr. Tauali‘i is the Immediate Past Co-Chair for the Native Research Network, the Chair-Elect for the American Public Health Association, American Indian/Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian Caucus, a Board member of the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Health Alliance, and Vice Chair of the International Indigenous Centre for Health Intelligence.

Dr. Tauali‘i recently presented at the ‘Imi Hale Joint Councils Meeting on February 25 on her 2-year research pilot, “Knowledge, Attitudes, & Practices on Bio-Banking Among Native Hawaiians.” This project addresses a knowledge gap in the perception of bio-banking in populations of Hawai‘i. She recently developed and tested questions regarding bio-banking for the Hawai‘i Health Survey (HHS). This procedure of cognitive testing probed twelve survey respondents on the comprehension of the questions. Sample questions include: “Would

you be more likely to donate tissue to research that was dedicated to a single disease, or research with no restrictions on use?” and “If you were to donate tissue, would you want your name to be attached to the sample, or would you rather that the tissue was not labeled?”

Results from this round of question refinement indicated that respondents were able to understand the meaning, intent, and terminology used in these questions about biospecimen collection. Dr. Tauali‘i discovered through the questions that receptivity to biospecimen donation varies by type of specimen (e.g. blood vs. urine), context, and perceived costs to the patient.

These twelve questions have been added to the Hawai‘i Health Survey, and data are currently being collected. A cultural profile of Native Hawaiians regarding bio-banking will be reported to the community at the end of her project.

Maika‘i! Keep up the wonderful work, Dr. Tauali‘i!

Ho‘okele i ke Ola Retrospective (continued from page 1)

I was very glad my predecessor, Ka‘ohimanu Dang, was still on the job! In that first week, I observed firsthand how Ho‘okele i ke Ola worked: cooperatively and through many partnerships. Each of the tasks I have undertaken taught me a little more about how community needs and input shaped the curriculum and how I needed to engage with community to move it forward. Since then, I worked to convert the curriculum to a 3-credit community college course, helped Leimomi Shearer to offer Ho‘okele i ke Ola training in Hilo, coordinated an O‘ahu-based training, and started the annual Ho‘okele

i ke Ola patient navigation annual conference. With additional financial support (a 2-year supplement) from the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities, we expanded our team, branded our Navigation curriculum, and set up a data system to evaluate services.

Furthermore, participating in other ‘Imi Hale activities demonstrated the well known ‘Ōlelo No‘eau, “‘A‘ohe hana nui ke alu ‘ia” - No task is too big when done together by all (‘Ōlelo No‘eau #141, MK Pukui). Through ‘Imi Hale’s pervasive practice of cooperative group work,

grants, proposals and articles get written, and organizational responsiveness is maximized to take advantage of opportunities.

One opportunity leveraged by ‘Imi Hale created my new position as the Coordinator for a new HRSA-funded Cancer Patient Navigation Program at The Queen’s Medical Center. This program extends navigation to 3 rural hospitals. ‘Imi Hale and community partners stay focused on the future of navigation in Hawai‘i. In this new role as a community partner of the Ho‘okele i ke Ola program, I look forward to helping to shape that future.

'Imi Hale Nā Liko Noelo Presents to Medical Staff

Nia Aitaoto, MS, MPH, an 'Imi Hale Nā Liko Noelo (research intern), presented at The Queen's Medical Center's Grand Rounds on January 14, 2011. Her presentation, "Cultural Competency: Insights When Serving Micronesian Patients in Hawai'i" was attended by 130 doctors and medical staff. During a break from her doctoral studies at the University of Iowa, Nia shared ways medical staff can provide cultural competent care to Micronesian patients. She provided insights on the differences and similarities between political, economic, and social subgroups within Micronesians. She noted that Micronesian community leaders, such as pastors, are concerned that providers lack understanding of Micronesian cultures and the inadequate healthcare infrastructures from which they came. Nia's presentation was well received, and she has been invited back for a *Hana Hou!* Grand Rounds is part of the Queen's continuing medical education activities (CME). This presentation was coordinated by QMC-NCCCP and 'Imi Hale.



Photos courtesy of Queen's Medical Center

'Imi Hale Thanks Long-time Mentor, Dr. Ken Chu



Dr. Kenneth Chu
Photo courtesy of NIH

'Imi Hale staff and council members were honored to have Dr. Ken Chu attend 'Imi Hale's quarterly meeting on February 25, 2011, during his recent visit to Hawai'i. Dr. Chu recently retired from NCI's, Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities (CRCHD) after many years of service with the NCI. He was part of the founding staff of the Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities under Dr. Harold Freeman's leadership and served as 'Imi Hale's project office for almost 6 years and 'Imi Hale's mentor and friend for over 15 years.

Dr. Chu had one more opportunity to hear about 'Imi Hale's current activities including a presentation from Dr. Maile Tauali'i on her current pilot project, "Knowledge, Attitudes, & Practices on Bio-Banking Among Native Hawaiians" (see pg 2). JoAnn Tsark took us all down memory lane with an entertaining presentation of Dr. Chu's adventures with 'Imi Hale over the past 10 years, including a kava ceremony in American Samoa. Despite all this, words and pictures were inadequate to express our appreciation for the years of mentorship, assistance, guidance, and friendship that Dr. Chu has so graciously and generously given. ***Mahalo ia 'oe e Ken.***



Meet Elise Davis, 'Imi Hale's Newest Team Member

Elise Davis is a Program Associate with the Ho'okele I ke Ola Cancer Patient Navigation Training Project at 'Imi Hale. A Kāne'ohe girl and graduate of Caste High School, Elise went on to receive her Bachelor's Degree from Cornell University in Biology with a concentration in genetics and development. She then earned her Master of Public Health Degree from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa in Social and Behavioral Health Sciences. Prior to working with 'Imi Hale, Elise worked as a Community Intervention Specialist with the Department of Health and as an Evaluation Research Assistant with the Office of Public Health Studies at UH. Her areas of interest include reducing health disparities, community health education, and community capacity building for health promotion. Elise is currently working with other Ho'okele team members to coordinate upcoming navigation training and continuing education opportunities for trained navigators, and to evaluate program activities.



QMC NCCCP Updates by JoAnn Tsark

The Queen's Medical Center is one of 30 NCI Community Cancer Centers Programs in the nation. As an NCCCP hospital, Queens is studying ways to:

- Reduce cancer healthcare disparities
- Increase patient participation in clinical trials
- Improve quality of cancer care
- Enhance cancer survivorship and palliative care services
- Expand use of electronic health records and connect to cancer research data networks

- Promote collection of high-quality biospecimens to support genomically-informed research.

Leading this initiative, Dr. Paul Morris, Principal Investigator oversees 6 program cores. 'Imi Hale partners with Queens to manage the Disparities Core.

Current projects from the Disparities Core team are: colorectal cancer screening, cultural competency training, cancer patient navigation training and continuing education, and cultur-

ally tailored cancer patient education materials.

To learn

more about

the NCI Community Cancer Centers Program, log on to: <http://ncccp.cancer.gov/About/index.htm> and The Queen's Cancer Center's website at <http://www.queenscancercenter.org>.



What's New at NCI by Koa Robinson



MMO - Multicultural Media Outreach Program

The Multicultural Media Outreach Program (MMO) at NCI's Office of Communications and Education provides support to multicultural media outlets seeking evidence-based cancer information, education materials, and news tailored to minority communities affected by cancer health disparities. NCI works with media partners to disseminate culturally relevant information through media interviews, drop-in articles for ethnic newspapers, video vignettes, and other Web-based and social media.

Learn more about NCI's MMO Program on their website:

<http://www.cancer.gov/mmo>.

Lifelines

NCI's MMO team also produces a series of YouTube videos entitled *Lifelines*, featuring cancer and public health awareness messages aimed at minority and underserved populations. The videos are part of NCI's *Lifelines* cancer education materials that include ready-to-use articles about cancer topics, tailored to minority communities. Reposting of the Lifeline videos is encouraged. To learn more about *Lifelines*, please visit: <http://www.cancer.gov/lifelines>.

R2R - Research to Reality

Another exciting development at NCI is the addition of the Research to Reality (R2R) online community. R2R is an online community that links cancer control practitioners and researchers through conversation, interactive cyber seminars, and features. Developed and supported by the NCI, this community is both an information resource and a forum where members can connect and collaborate with other public health professionals to ask questions, discuss ideas and solutions, share useful resources and tools, and participate in cyber-seminars and other events. R2R was developed in response to Cancer Control P.L.A.N.E.T. users' need to engage with colleagues and share experiences. To learn more about R2R, please visit: <https://researchtoreality.cancer.gov/>.

National Outreach Network (NON)

The National Cancer Institute is updating their webpage for the National Outreach Network (NON). NON is a multi-disciplinary program that bridges NCI-supported outreach and community education efforts with cancer health disparities research and training programs. NON was developed to provide outreach and education to underrepresented and at-risk communities, to increase their awareness of cancer prevention behaviors, screening and treatment options, and health and cancer care. NON's communication strategy is culturally tailored to address diverse populations and includes information dissemination, community outreach, and prevention and health promotion programs. Each grant site (including 'Imi Hale) has a Community Health Educator (CHE) who works as a liaison among the researchers, partners, and community to address needs and disseminate culturally tailored cancer information.

Koa Robinson is the NON Community Health Educator for 'Imi Hale. CRCHD is developing NON contact webpages for the NCI-CRCHD website (<http://crchd.cancer.gov/>), which is expected to go live in early March.

Ho‘omaika‘i!

Celebrating Achievements

‘Oni kalalea ke ku a ka lā‘au loa.
A tall tree stands above the others.
Said of a person of outstanding achievements.
—‘Ōlelo No‘eau #2520

Dr. Kathryn Braun and Dr. Claire L. Asam: **Women’s History Month “Inspiring Women” Recipient**

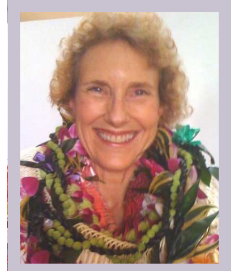
Dr. Kathryn Braun, ‘Imi Hale Co-Principal Investigator, was honored on March 7, 2011 as one of Honolulu County’s Committee on the Status of Women’s Inspiring Women. She was lauded for her work in improving Native Hawaiian health and for her accomplishments in the field of gerontology. **Dr. Claire Asam**, Trustee of the Lili‘uokalani Trust and former Steering Committee Member of ‘Imi Hale’s was also honored for her lifelong professional and personal commitment to the children of Hawai‘i.

Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle congratulated all the recipients and issued a proclamation to acknowledge March as Women’s History Month in Honolulu. An exhibit of all the honorees are on display in the Honolulu Hale courtyard until the end of March.

Dr. Claire Ku‘uleilani Hughes: **2011 Living Treasures of Hawai‘i Honoree**

Dr. Claire Hughes, an ‘Imi Hale colleague and leader in Native Hawaiian health, was named a *Living Treasure of Hawai‘i* by the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai‘i. The Honpa Hongwanji recognizes and honors individuals who have demonstrated excellence in their fields and who have made lifelong and significant contributions toward creating a more humane society.

The Honpa Hongwanji highlighted Dr. Hughes’ accomplishments and leadership in groundbreaking dietary and health programs for the Native Hawaiian community. Through her work in state government as the Chief of the Nutrition Branch, she developed and tested many culturally based diet programs that deepened cultural awareness as they returned Native Hawaiian communities to their traditional diet and bestowed significant health benefits.



The Queen’s Medical Center, Oncology Research Department and Moloka‘i General Hospital’s Kukui Ahi Program: **Harold P. Freeman Award Winners for 2010**



The American Cancer Society (ACS), High Plains Division presented Harold P. Freeman Awards to individuals, groups, and organizations “who have demonstrated exemplary achievement in the areas of saving lives, diminishing suffering or improving quality of life from cancer in underserved, at-risk communities.” The award is named after Dr. Harold Freeman, a past President of ACS who focused on issues relating to the underserved. Queen’s Oncology Research Department was praised for increasing clinical trial participation of Native Hawaiian, Pacific Islander, and Filipino populations. Kukui Ahi members Haunani Kamakana, Lily Napoleon, and Avette Ponce are pictured left, with Dr. Freeman in 2010 while attending his Navigator training.

Dr. Keawe Kaholokula: **New Chair of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health**

On February 11, 2011, a touching ceremony at the John A. Burns School of Medicine welcomed Dr. Keawe Kaholokula as the new Chair of the Department of Native Hawaiian Health. An ‘Imi Hale Nā Liko Noelo, Dr. Kaholokula stated, “We are a clinical department without the word ‘medicine’ in its name. We understand that the health of a people requires more than medicine; it’s about how we feel about our lives and how we are interconnected with each other.” Many leaders from The Queen’s Health System, UH Systems, and the Native Hawaiian community came to celebrate Dr. Kaholokula’s new appointment.



Photo courtesy of UH JABSOM

'Imi Hale Bulletin Board

New and Improved Education Materials!

Developing and distributing culturally tailored health education materials has always been important features of 'Imi Hale. We are currently focusing on our tobacco cessation materials. These materials have proven to be very popular, and now need to be updated and reprinted. This includes the No Smoking Door Hanger, the "Medicines that Help You Quit Smoking" brochure, and the "Why You Should Quit Smoking" brochure (shown here). Also, in response to the local laws banning smoking in automobiles with children, we are developing a no smoking car air-freshener. We are partnering with the DOH Tobacco Prevention Education Program, the Tobacco Quit Line and the Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawai'i for assistance with content, printing and distribution of the materials statewide. The new smoking cessation materials should be ready this summer. If you would like to order any of our health education materials, including the aforementioned tobacco cessation materials, please contact. 'Imi Hale's Health Education Department at 808-526-1700 or visit our website at www.imihale.org.



Upcoming Events:

April 18, 2011—Ho'okele i ke Ola Continued Education Class for Cancer Patient Navigators, Site: Queen's Conference Center. Contact Elise Davis: (808)526-1700 or email us at hookele@imihale.org if you are interested in attending.

May 2011—Ho'okele i ke Ola Cancer Patient Navigation Training. Our next 48-hour training is scheduled for: May 12-13, May 19-20, and May 26-27 in Honolulu, HI. Training will take place at various facilities throughout Honolulu, and participants must attend all days. Class size is limited, so please contact Jermy Domingo at (808)526-1700 or at hookele@imihale.org if you are interested in attending.

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August 25-26, 2011- Ho'okele i ke Ola Annual Conference. Honolulu Airport Hotel, Honolulu, HI. In response to feedback from last year's attendees, this year's conference will focus on Lung Cancer. Native Hawaiian men and women have the highest lung cancer incidence and mortality rates among the major ethnic groups in Hawai'i (Hawai'i Cancer Facts & Figures 2010). At the conference, attendees will learn about advances in screening, diagnosis, and treatment of lung cancer. Participants will also have an opportunity to network with experienced clinical and community navigators and other cancer care professionals. More information about registering is forthcoming. Please visit our website at www.imihale.org or contact hookele@imihale.org if you are interested in attending.

**To learn more about our upcoming events,
contact us at (808)526-1700.**



Halehukū circa 1940

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