

KKV Connects

2019 was an important year for KKV milestones!

KKV was named a *Health Center Quality Leader for 2019* by the Federal Government.

A big Mahalo to Merina Sapolu for 45 years service and to Dr. Derauf for 30 years service to KKV!

STAFF NEWS



In 2019 we celebrated the long service to KKV of **Dr. David Breese who retired this year**. He joined KKV in February of 1979 and dedicated his career to serving vulnerable populations, particularly low-income immigrant families of Kalihi. Dr. Breese has been a beloved role model, mentor and friend to countless colleagues, students, and patients, personifying values of aloha, excellence, and neighborliness. With his leadership, KKV solidified its dental program, particularly during the 1980's financial crisis when Dr. Breese volunteered extra hours to keep the clinic open. He created Kalihi's school-based sealant program in 1995; he brought the Advanced Education in General Dentistry, Pediatric Dentistry, and Public Health Residency programs to Hawai'i; and he initiated a partnership with the Dental Hygiene Program at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, which made KKV a clinical rotation and training site for 3rd year dental hygiene students. We will miss you!!



Congratulations to Sheryl Yoshimura, MPH, RDN, LDN, CSR, CDE

Program Coordinator - Wahiawa Center for Community Health and Kokua Kaihi Valley

2019 Outstanding Preceptor Award – Winner West Coast Region

Out of over 100,000 members, Sheryl was selected as **1 of 6 awardees!**



Welcome!

Rona Dumagos Mangayayam, our new **Youth Coordinator**, was born and raised in Ilocos Sur, Philippines and is a granddaughter of a United Methodist Minister. She received her theological education at Union Theological Seminary in Cavite, Philippines and was ordained in 1996 at Northwest Philippines Annual Conference. Since 2009, Rona has been serving Harris United Methodist Church as the Assistant Pastor. Her experience includes eight years work as a youth coordinator and administrative pastor.

Yuet Mui Kong, our new **COO**, comes to KKV from DHS, Homeless Program Office. She previously worked for Lanakila Pacific/Lanakila Meals on Wheels as their Operations Manager, and served in various positions in Catholic Charities Hawaii. Prior to that, she served as the Assistant Director of Mission to Market for the Girl Scouts of Hawaii. Mui has a Master's degree in Human Services Administration from the University of Northern Iowa and also has a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She is trilingual in English, Cantonese and Mandarin.



New Faces at KKV!

Vikrant Bhasin who has been working in the **Roots Cafe** since September, is a lifelong chef. Vikrant adds enthusiasm, passion, hard work -- and new flavors -- to the Cafe!

Sunny Ganadan just started overseeing the **KVIBE/CECE** programs. Sunny is an attorney maintaining a solo practice representing businesses and individuals as a Court-Appointed Attorney through the Family and District Criminal Courts. He is a Fellow with the Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action and has been a Writer for the Hawaii Presidential Center Initiative and for the Native Hawaiian Justice Task Force Report.

Dr. Jeff Lin, a family doctor, just joined KKV part time through July. We thank you for helping out when we need it!

Volunteer Profile

Aloha Kishinami – fondly known as Aunty

Aloha – shares her story of connection to land and healing at



the health of the people is directly connected to the health of the land. Within three years of her first stroke, Aunty Aloha suffered a second one, which left her with delayed speech. "It was frustrating because I lost parts of my brain responsible for words and memory, and I found it difficult to find the words I wanted say," she explained.

But she survived and credits Ho'oulu 'Āina for her journey toward a healthier future. "Thank God that we were created with neuroplasticity [the ability for the brain to change continuously throughout an individual's life], and I have recovered most of my memory, vocabulary, and speech!" "At Ho'oulu 'Āina, it doesn't matter. Everyone feels welcome as they adventurously live, play and experiment in their own life without the fear of being shamed or condemned." "All the solutions everyone is searching for in the world are happening right now... HA is helping people, helping the world to heal!"



Congratulations

Elder Care trained three new **Nurse Aides** this month. **Adelina Sandi** (left), **Juanita Rivera** (lower left), and **Rexie Acido** are now certified and able to apply for jobs!



SAVE THE DATE!

Ho'oulu 'Aina Pop-Up Market
Friday, December 13 from 5-7pm
at Ho'oulu 'Aina



Seams Wonderful Holiday Sale
 Friday December 20 - 10:00 - 4:30
 Roots Cafe'

Put it on your calendar! Shop for beautiful bags, shirts and dresses created by Seams Wonderful seamstresses.

IN THE NEWS



On October 15, Hawaii Business Magazine published an article "**Helping Seniors Stay Healthy**" about KKV's Elder Care program: <https://www.hawaiibusiness.com/helping-seniors-stay-healthy/>



"Mobilizing young men in the Kalihi Valley community through biking"

<https://youtu.be/AVLz54VYiy0> The video is a production of the Movember Foundation, which is partnering with Prevention Institute and KKV's **Kalihi Valley Instructional Bike Exchange (KVIBE)** in the **Making Connections** initiative to improve mental health and wellbeing for men and boys. The project is working collaboratively with the Kalihi community to build self-confidence, social connections, and cultural pride which are critical for achieving health and wellbeing. KVIBE engages boys and young men in activities that provide safe spaces for them to be physically active, develop their bike mechanics skills, and grow as community leaders. A healthy man and boy means a healthy community—a connected community!

ALOHA and MAHALO



We will miss **Dr. Shinjo Ito**, our **geriatrician** for Elder Care. Dr. Ito graduated from Tohoku University School of Medicine in 2005 and has been in practice for 13 years. He completed a residency at University Of Hawaii At Manoa. Dr. Ito accepts multiple insurance plans including Aetna, HMSA, and Cigna. Dr. Ito is board certified in Family Medicine; Geriatric Medicine. In addition to English, Dr. Ito's practice supports these languages: Spanish, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Japanese, Thai, Burmese, Chuukese, Ilocano, Samoan, and Kajin Majel/Marshallese.

Dr. Jocelyn Mizunaka is leaving KKV's medical department to work for a community health center in Fresno, California, where her family lives. She has been helping patients for the past three years at KKV. We are sorry to see her go!

Mahalo to **Jo Ayers**, MPH was hired as KKV's **Chief Operations Officer (COO)** in July 2013 and retired in September of this year. Jo contributed to KKV's wellness with her thoughtful staff supervision, creative problem solving, strategic planning, quality improvement / assurance, reporting, HIPAA implementation, accountability for outcomes, credentialing, and accreditation.

Mahalo to **Kevin Fallor** for four years of passionate work for the KVIBE program. We will miss his energy



Mahalo to all KKV staff who contribute every day to support the health of our community in Kalihi Valley.

[Please click below to donate securely online.](#)

Or contact the Grants Department about a donation of program supplies or other types of gifts.

Mahalo for your support!

Support KKV

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