

FROM THE OFFICE OF
SENATOR STANLEY CHANG
East Honolulu Community Newsletter

November 2024



Image Credit: Sean Sanada

Senator Stanley Chang is pleased to announce that **\$2 million** in capital improvement funds have been secured for Lē'ahi Hospital renovations. These funds will be used towards constructing a new kitchen facility in the sub-basement of the Young Building at Lē'ahi Hospital.

Lē'ahi Hospital has been providing the community of Honolulu with quality care and services since 1901. It is a critical component of our healthcare infrastructure. In addition to serving surrounding communities Kaimukī and Diamond Head, it is part of the Hawai'i Health Systems Corporation (HHSC), so it is a component of the "safety net" for acute and long-term care statewide.

The office spoke with Sean Sanada, Chief Administrative Officer for the O'ahu Region of HHSC, to further understand the impact of these funds. Sanada shares, "This project is very important to our long-term care operations because the new facility will be located in the same building as our residents. Currently, all meals are prepared at the opposite end of

our campus and delivered to the Young Building." As a result, staff must utilize delivery carts and take multiple trips between buildings. The walkways are outdoors, exposing personnel and meals to inclement weather. Furthermore, a natural disaster, such as a hurricane or tropical storm, could block access to the current kitchen facility.

The Chief Administrative Officer adds that "[the] project could potentially have a positive impact on the wider community, because the current kitchen space, once vacated, could be used for a number of different purposes, including—but not limited to—a nonprofit vocational rehabilitation kitchen to support programs such as Hawai'i Meals on Wheels, a space for hands-on culinary education and training, or a commercial kitchen that could be leased to generate revenue for our long-term care operations." This renovation and construction will bring about much improvement in the hospital and opportunities for our broader statewide community.



Image Credit: Sean Sanada (rooms in the Young Building sub-basement to be renovated to become a kitchen, prior to demolition))

► **CALL US**

808-586-8420

► **EMAIL US**

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► **HANDY CONTACTS**

State Pothole Hotline
808-586-7852

City Pothole Hotline
808-768-7777

State Homelessness
gov.homelessness@hawaii.gov
808-586-0193

City Homelessness
complaints@honolulu.gov
808-768-4381

Abandoned Vehicles
808-733-2530

Building Permits
808-768-8000

Poison Control
800-222-1222

Trash Collection
808-768-3200

Street Light Repair
808-768-5300

Domestic Abuse
Hotline
800-799-7233

Public Assistance
Information Line
855-643-1643

MOVING FORWARD

HOW TO REPORT DOG ATTACKS

Victims of dog attacks often do not know how to report the issue and/or do not report the attack at all. However, it is recommended that victims report the attack, as it helps eliminate future attacks and prevents the euthanization of dogs.

Victims should call 911 and report the attack. Additionally, complaints about dangerous or loose dogs can be filed with the Hawaiian Humane Society at 808-356-2250.

It is important to be aware of the legal implications for dog owners in such cases. If an attack results in serious injury or the destruction of an animal, or if a person other than the owner is injured, the owner can be charged with a petty misdemeanor. Repeat offenses escalate to a misdemeanor, with corresponding sentencing.

A convicted dog owner will be sentenced to the following without possibility of suspension of sentence:

- A fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$2000; except that if the offense occurred within five years of a previous conviction under this section, a fine of not less than \$1000 nor more than \$2000;
- A period of imprisonment of up to 30 days, or in lieu of imprisonment, a period of probation of not more than six months in accordance with the procedures, terms, and conditions provided in HRS Chapter 706, Part II; except that if the offense occurred within five years of a previous conviction under this section, a period of imprisonment of up to six months, or in lieu of imprisonment, a period of probation of not more than one year;
- Compensation to any person suffering bodily injuries or property damage because of a dog attack where

the person experiences financial losses or medical expenses; and

- Payment for boarding the dog if seized according to § 12-7.3(a).
- Furthermore, unless the dog is ordered to be humanely put down, the dog owner shall do the following:
- Provide their name, address, and telephone number to the city animal control service;
 - Provide the location at which the dog is currently kept, if such location is not the owner's address;
 - Promptly notify the appropriate animal control service of: any changes in the ownership of the dog or the location of the dog along with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of new owners or the new address at which the dog is located; any further instances of an attack by the dog upon a person or an animal; any claims made or lawsuits brought as a result of further instances of an attack by the dog; or the death of the dog; and
 - Keep the dog on a leash no longer than six feet and attended by an individual at least eighteen years old when outside of the owner's property.



COMMITTEE OF 100'S NEXT GENERATION LEADERS

Committee of 100 is accepting applications for the 2025 Next Generation Leaders (NGL) class. This group will be announced and spotlighted at Committee of 100's Conference & Gala in Los Angeles next April.

Committee of 100 is a nonprofit U.S. leadership

organization of prominent Chinese Americans in business, government, academia, healthcare, and the arts focused on public policy engagement, civic engagement, and philanthropy. For over 30 years, Committee of 100 has served as a preeminent organization committed to the dual missions of promoting the full participation of Chinese Americans in all aspects of American life and constructive relations between the United States and Greater China. Launched in 2014, Committee of 100's NGL

IN THE COMMUNITY

PROTECTING OUR MENTAL HEALTH DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

As the holidays draw near, many of us eagerly anticipate the reunions, gatherings, and celebrations that bring joy and warmth. However, for some, this season can evoke feelings of sadness, self-reflection, loneliness, and anxiety. Regardless of how you feel, prioritizing your mental health during this busy time is essential.

Identifying the root causes of negative emotions can help manage stress. Common triggers include fatigue, burnout, financial pressures, isolation, unrealistic expectations, lack of sunlight, and excessive alcohol consumption. Taking the time to understand and address these sources can significantly enhance your mental well-being during the holidays:

- Set realistic expectations for yourself and others this holiday season.
- Create a list and prioritize activities to make holiday tasks more manageable.
- Share the responsibilities of holiday tasks with others.
- Distribute your energy and holiday cheer across multiple events, rather than focusing on just one day (e.g., Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's Eve).
- If you feel lonely, consider volunteering to help others.

- Reach out to a long-lost friend or relative.
- Limit alcohol consumption, as excessive drinking can increase feelings of depression.
- Monitor your holiday spending to avoid financial stress and depression from post-holiday bills.
- Enjoy free holiday activities, such as viewing decorations, visiting the beach, or hiking a local trail.
- Avoid setting yourself up for disappointment by comparing the present with the past.



Image Credit: Mind Help

program convenes an exceptional group of change-makers and rising leaders from diverse sectors, leveraging a collective sense of service and purpose to elevate the impact of each individual. Currently, there are over 200 NGL alumni across a multitude of sectors who make up a vibrant and diverse network. Becoming a member of Committee of 100's NGL program comes with the exclusive opportunity to join a vibrant community of like-minded NGLs, motivated to work towards a more productive U.S.-China relationship and a more diverse and inclusive U.S. society. NGLs will engage with Committee of 100 to develop customized programming and content tailored to the NGL community and to collaborate with Committee of 100 Members, who are comprised of leaders across business, government, science, academia, and the arts. NGLs also receive complimentary invitations to Committee of 100's annual conference & gala, with dedicated NGL programming, and special access to additional Committee of 100 events. Additionally, NGLs will engage in impactful service projects for positive social

impact and community-building.

The deadline to submit applications is **January 10, 2025, 5:00pm Eastern Time.**

Apply at tinyurl.com/committeeof100nextgen2025.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions can be found at committee100.org/our-work/next-generation-development-program.



Image Credit: Committee of 100

YOUR CONCERNS

FIGHTING FOOD INSECURITY

As the holidays approach, we can look forward to festive times filled with food, fellowship, and fun. However, it's important to remember that many people in our neighborhoods face food insecurity—reductions in dietary quality and variety and even skipping meals, because the household cannot afford enough food.

According to the Hawai'i Foodbank's most recent *The State of Food Insecurity in Hawai'i* report, nearly one in three households in Hawai'i are struggling with food insecurity. In almost one-third of households with keiki, one or more children face food insecurity. In the most extreme cases, 6% of homes had children who go a whole day without eating. This is especially detrimental to children's growing bodies and brains, which require sufficient nutrients to properly develop.

Other distressing figures include:

- 1 in 10 households go without food for a whole day, in some or most months out of the year
- 47% of Filipino households are food insecure
- 49% of young adults ages 18–29 are food insecure, making this age range the most affected
- 56% with poor health were food insecure
- 64% of food insecure people delayed filling prescriptions to save money
- 74% with vision difficulties were food insecure
- 60% with hearing difficulties were food insecure

Read the full report at tinyurl.com/stateoffoodinsecurityinhawaii. Here is a noncomprehensive list of food assistance providers in East Honolulu:

- **Angel Network Charities**
5339 Kalani'anaole Hwy, Honolulu, HI 96821
(808) 377-1841
- **Kapi'olani Community College**

Pohukaina Food Pantry
4303 Diamond Head Rd, Honolulu, HI 96816
ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY

go.hawaii.edu/3Ss

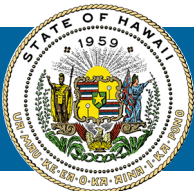
Parking available in lower Lot B

- **Waikiki Community Center**
310 Paoakalani Ave, Honolulu, HI 96816
808-923-1802
- **King's Cathedral O'ahu**
5740 Kalani'anaole Hwy, Honolulu, HI 96821
808-466-3273
- **Mutual Housing Association of Hawai'i Pālolo Homes**
2170 Ahe St, Honolulu, HI 96816
808-733-8650

Alleviating food insecurity across our State is a community effort. SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), previously known as the Food Stamps program, enables families to purchase groceries such as fresh fruits, vegetables, rice, dairy products, meat, fish, and cereal, as well as seeds or plants for growing food. Visit humanservices.hawaii.gov/bessd/snap for the application and more information. Hawai'i Foodbank offers free SNAP assistance along with ways anyone can get involved at hawaiiifoodbank.org. If you or someone you know is facing food insecurity, find local food banks in your area at hawaiiifoodbasket.org/find-food-now.



Image Credit: Hawai'i Foodbank



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