

# State Commission on Fatherhood

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Lieutenant Governor's Meeting Room, Hawai'i State Capitol

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sandy Baz, Michael Kramer, Steven Nakaoka, Marika Ripke, Henry Oliva,  
Merton Chinen, Bernard Carvalho, Sylvia Yuen, Clayton Fujie, Russell Suzuki  
MEMBERS ABSENT: Loretta Fuddy, Andres Baclig, Greg Farstrup

**1. CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Michael Cramer at 10:09 a.m with a quorum of 6 voting members.

## **2. MARCH 30, 2005 MEETING MINUTES**

ACTION: The March 30, 2005 minutes were approved as circulated (Yuen / Oliva; unanimous).

## **3. VOTING MEMBER NOMINEE SUGGESTIONS**

There were no more suggestions for Voting Member Nominees. There was a suggestion to have someone from the military attend some of our meetings. Chet Adessa was specifically mentioned/requested.

## **4. STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Each of the 4 subcommittees distributed their strategic plans and timelines for the next 3 years. Sandy Baz and Russell Suzuki have joined the Policies and Practices subcommittee.

Items proposed/discussed that are NOT specifically captured within the subcommittee's handouts include:

- a. Having a greater presence at statewide and local conferences (e.g., Prevent Child Abuse; Faith and Ministry conference @ Convention Center; ask Lt. Governor to address fatherhood in his speech)
- b. Obtaining research assistance – It was agreed that we should hire a graduate student or intern to assist with the Commission's tasks. Yuen informed the Commission that it would cost approximately \$15,000/year for a graduate student. Another possibility is to work with UH or other university departments to (a) have an instructor/class partner with us to do the work as part of academic credit (and thus would be without cost); or (b) set up as an internship for a student to receive course credit (and thus would be without cost). Regardless, the student(s) will need supervision on a daily or weekly basis. Kramer will look into these possibilities.
- c. Ask the Good Beginnings Alliance (GBA) to track (as part of the legislation platform they currently track) legislation related to fatherhood issues.
- d. Oliva will follow up with DHS to determine whether the Commission's website may be housed within/as part of the DHS website

**5. LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS: SB 1780 re State Commission on Fatherhood** – The bill will be "in conference" on Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup> to determine where the funds will come from (TANF vs. general fund). Senator Kanno will be there.

## **6. FUTURE MEETINGS**

- a. **Schedule** – The next meeting will be held on May 25<sup>th</sup>.
- b. **Place** – The meeting will be held in the Lt. Governor's office.
- c. **Agenda items** – We will discuss:
  - 1) Our budget;
  - 2) Yuen will bring the COF family resource kit;

- 3) Kramer will bring “father video,” National Fatherhood Initiative’s “Father-Friendly Check-Up for Social Services and Programs” CD-ROM, the Nurturing Fathers Curriculum, handouts from his presentation at the Prevent Child Abuse Hawaii conference workshop, and a status update of the “Comparative Review of State Commissions, Initiatives, and Programs Addressing Fatherhood Issues” published in 2001 by the National Practitioners Network for Fathers and Families.

**7. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 11.55 a.m..

**Submitted by:** Marika Ripke, Recording Secretary  
Date Submitted: May 6, 2005

**Approved by:** State Commission on Fatherhood  
**Date Approved:** June 29, 2005