



EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING

News Release

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STATE HONORS SENIOR VOLUNTEERS

HONOLULU -- The State of Hawai'i Executive Office on Aging (EOA) and the Policy Advisory Board for Elder Affairs (PABEA) recently honored the contributions of *kupuna* to Hawai'i during a recognition luncheon at Washington Place. The State recognized eight honorees, two from each county, for their dedicated service to their communities.

Mrs. Vivian Aiona presented a proclamation on behalf of Governor Linda Lingle and Lt. Governor James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr., who proclaimed May as Older Americans Month in Hawai'i to coincide with President Barack Obama's proclamation that pronounced this year's theme for Older Americans Month, "Living Today for a Better Tomorrow."

Each county selected honorees from among their peers. The honorees were Sarah Togashi and Ah Vin "Jacob" Zane (Hawai'i County), Janice Bond and Arnulfo Diaz, M.D. (Kaua'i County), June Kaaihue and Larry Carter (Maui County), and Michiko Motooka and Charles Clark (City and County of Honolulu).

"As we commemorate Hawai'i's Golden Jubilee of Statehood, we honor individuals in their golden years," stated EOA Executive Director Noemi Pendleton. "Because our *kupuna* were 'Living Today for a Better Tomorrow' years ago, Hawai'i is blessed with the fruits of their labor and the rich legacy they are creating for our state. Their contributions make Hawai'i a better and healthier place to live, work, and play."

This is the 43rd year Hawai'i has celebrated Older Americans Month.

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For more information, contact:
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Photo caption

Senior volunteers honored included:

Front Row: June Kaaihue (Maui); Janice Bond (Kauai); Sarah Togashi (Hawaii); Michiko Motooka (C&C of Honolulu)

Back Row: Deborah Arendale, Maui County Office on Aging Executive; Kealoha Takahashi, Kauai Agency on Elderly Affairs Executive; Arnulfo Diaz, MD (Kauai); Larry Carter, PhD (Maui); Mrs. Vivian Aiona; Alan Parker, Hawaii County Office of Aging Executive; Ah Vin Zane (Hawaii); Charles Clark (C&C of Honolulu); Noemi Pendleton, Executive Office on Aging Director; Karen Miyake, City and County of Honolulu Elderly Affairs Division Executive