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PRESS RELEASE  
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**Mayor announces CARES Act collaboration to create new  
healthcare jobs and expanded services for kupūna and  
families**

Mayor Michael Victorino announced today a new countywide collaboration with various organizations to create healthcare jobs and expand services for kupūna and families using CARES Act funds.

The County of Maui's new HealthCARES Hui is the first initiative that has emerged from Mayor Victorino's Economic Recovery Task Force, which was comprised of industry leaders to help identify opportunities for relief through CARES Act funds.

The County is allocating roughly \$1.5 million for the program, which will be spent on hiring and training staff, expanded nutritious food delivery and providing resources and care management.

The program also will assist nurses and healthcare workers earn certifications and licenses to allow them to begin working at local medical providers.

Administered by Hale Makua, the effort is in collaboration with Hui No Ke Ola Pono, Mālama I Ke Ola Health Center, Habitat for Humanity, Hale Mahaolu, Kula Hospital, East Maui Kupūna Hui and Maui Medical Group.

"COVID-19 has rocked Maui County's economy to its core and left us among the highest unemployment rates in the state," Mayor Victorino said. "Through this new collaboration, we plan to create approximately 50 full-time positions for certified nurses, community health workers and other jobs for our displaced workers and school graduates. The partnership also focuses on taking care of our kupūna, who are extremely vulnerable to this virus and are still in need of services."

"We want to mahalo the HealthCARES Hui organizations and all our partners for their work to plan and prepare this program for our community."

The HealthCARES Hui has three primary goals:

- **Create job opportunities** for recent high school grads and displaced workers to start a healthcare career to earn a living wage.
- **Expand food delivery options** with local, nutritious, prepped meal delivery to high-risk families and kupūna.
- **Adapt the care management model** by expanding home health services, personal care programs and home improvements.

The full-time positions to be created include Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA), Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), Community Health Workers (CHW), and positions in housekeeping, dietary, nutrition, social work and resident aides. Workers would be trained and hired by agencies in the HealthCARES Hui.

More information on the job opportunities will be posted as it becomes available.

Meal delivery service expansion will focus on kupuna in Hawaiian Homes and families and kupuna in affordable housing developments who may not be able to attend grab & go food pick-up locations. Meal prep will be done by local chefs/restaurants and include Maui ingredients and produce.

Along with meal delivery, other care management resources will be provided including health assessments, critical home repairs, unemployment services, COVID-19 prevention and other assistance.

Hale Makua CEO, Wesley Lo, closed the announcement saying, “On behalf of this hui of Maui organizations, we want to thank Mayor Victorino, his staff and the community volunteers who have been working around the clock to support all of us during this difficult time. We are hopeful that as we come together to care for each other, the health and well-being of our Maui community will be rebuilt and will emerge stronger than ever.”

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