

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## **News Release**

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## HAWAII KUPUNA ASKED TO SHARE VIEWS ON AGING WITH FEDERAL OFFICIALS

HONOLULU – Do you have a suggestion or recommendation to help improve the lives of Hawaii senior citizens? Then the State Executive Office on Aging and Area Agencies on Aging wants to hear from you as they gear up to conduct local *White House Conference on Aging (WHCOA)* activities.

Every decade the President of the United States convenes the White House Conference on Aging to make policy recommendations regarding programs that are important to older adults, their families and communities. These recommendations are made with broad public input to guide the President, Congress and Federal agencies.

The Hawaii Executive Office on Aging and County Area Agencies on Aging are planning events across the state, starting December 17, to seek ideas and information from Hawaii senior's and baby boomers on issues that affect older Americans, such as long term care and healthcare. Comments will be accepted through mid-June, 2005.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our kupuna (older adults), their families, and communities to share their voice in identifying major issues, concerns and recommendations," said Shimeji Kanazawa, Co-Chair of the Hawaii White House Conference on Aging.

For more information on how you or your agency may be able to participate in local WHCOA activities contact your County Area Agency on Aging.

For more information contact: Kauai County Agency on Elderly Affairs Phone: (808) 241-4470

Elderly Affairs Division, Honolulu Phone: (808) 523-4546 Maui County Office on Aging Phone: (808) 270-7755

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