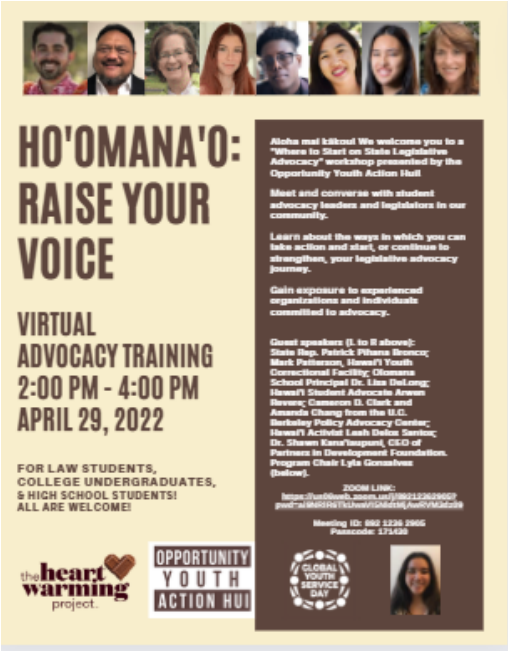
APRIL 15, 2022

Opportunity Youth Action Hui policy Priorities

Student advocates has been engaged by members of the Opportunity Youth Action Hui to advance initiatives in support of the hui member organizations, including Native Hawaiian equity in the criminal justice system, workforce training and development, trauma-informed care, and the education, mental health and well-being of youth.

HO'OMANA'O ADVOCACY WORKSHOP

Recently, OYAH was awarded a very modest grant from The Hershey Heartwarming Project to host a workshop on "Where to Start on State Legislative Advocacy" for law students, college undergraduates, and high school seniors. Taking place virtually on April 29 from 2pm-4pm, we are very fortunate to have guest speakers Rep. Pat Branco, high school student Arwen Revere, Mark Patterson, Dr. Shawn Kana'iaupuni, Dr. Lisa DeLong, U.C. Berkeley Law School Policy Advocacy Clinic teaching fellow Cameron Clark and law student Amanda Chang speaking on topics encompassing advocacy and where to get started. Through this workshop, we hope to spark a fire to encourage a younger generation to use their voices to make a difference by-way-of testifying and advocacy, as age difference with testifiers can be quite disparate. Thus, we hope to change this and wish to see more 'opio testifying!



SESSION NOT OVER UNTIL MAY 5

During this state legislative session, policy interns Leah Delos Santos and Lyla Gonsalves, along with volunteer advisor Melissa Pavlicek, Dr. Shawn Kana'iaupuni, and OYAH members have made tremendous strides to achieve an overall goal to assist Hawai'i's 'opio by tracking over 150 bills, with 12 priority bills, submitting written and verbal testimony and meeting with legislators. In addition, the interns say they have felt very fortunate to get in-person tours of Kupa 'Āina, join virtual meetings with members of OYAH, and learn about the mission of the OYAH organizations.

'A'ohe pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ho'okahi: One can learn from many sources.

EDITORS LEAH DELOS SANTOS & LYLA GONSALVES
1099 ALAKEA ST, SUITE 2530 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
(808) 447-1840