

JUNE 30, 2022

OPPORTUNITY YOUTH ACTION HUI POLICY PRIORITIES

Rep. Troy Hashimoto Welcomed OYAH Advocates to Talk Policy

On June 28, Hawai'i state Representative Troy Hashimoto from Maui met with OYAH policy leaders to hear about OYAH's priorities and discuss youth public policy, incarceration, criminal justice and Maui non-profit organizations that might align with OYAH. He was warm and engaging, concerned about inequities in the criminal justice system, and he welcomed OYAH's invitation to work on youth-oriented priorities. He suggested that OYAH connect with several stakeholders/collaborators from Maui, including Maui Economic Opportunity and other grassroots/community. He also encouraged us to and may help us meet with the Maui Police Chief Pelletier to discuss the different aspects of youth incarceration and more closely examine the specifics of Maui's judicial process as it pertains to youth. Rep. Hashimoto offered advice for our policy initiatives next session, including relying on community support and advocates to move the needle in the legislative process, as well as narrowing our scope in regards to bill tracking and potential bill introductions. He emphasized the importance of diversion and preventative programs and options for Maui youth. He strongly recommends focusing on a selective number of priorities.



Upcoming Legislator and Stakeholder Meetings

Here is a list of upcoming meetings with other legislators and stakeholders - OYAH members please contact Melissa Pavlicek if you'd like to join at mpavlicek@hawaiipublicpolicy.com:

July 6th

2:30pm - Community Alliance on Prisons (Kat Brady)

July 7th

10:00am - Rep. Richard Onishi

1:00pm - Criminal Justice Research Institute (Erin Harbinson)

We are also looking to schedule future meetings with Rep. Linda Ichiyama and the Women's Prison Project (Linda Rich).

College student advocates were 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.

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