

NORTH KOHALA

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

2019 ANNUAL REPORT
FEBRUARY 2020



Our mission is to support successful community projects that benefit North Kohala.

A message from our Board president, Vicky Kometani

Aloha,

More than 18 years ago, NKCRC was founded from one man's forward-thinking vision based on conversations and observations of hard working community volunteers. He saw that our community could better thrive and impact change if meaningful projects were under one non-profit umbrella.

Bob Martin knew that the power of many far outweighs the power of one. Today, more than 85 projects ranging from school-based, to agriculture, music, environment and our kupuna are supported via the administrative, financial and grant-seeking services of NKCRC.

A skeletal staff of three, Executive Director Christine Richardson, Associate Director Leslie Nugent and Administrative Assistant Denni Keyes perform yeoman's duties to help ensure each project's and the Center's success.

A dedicated Board of Directors comprised of community members and four student directors meets monthly to review new project applications, finances and fundraising. None of this would be possible without the support of our North Kohala community and donors far and wide.

As we embark on 2020, we all thank you for your past support and urge your continued support of this highly impactful organization.

Mahalo,

Vicky Kometani



NKCRC Board of Directors and Staff, December 2019



KMS 21ST CENTURY LIBRARY

2019 SPONSORED PROJECTS

We are pleased to welcome these meaningful community initiatives as newly sponsored projects of NKCRC in 2019. We look forward to working with them to meet their goals as they serve our North Kohala community.

**21st Century Library Initiative
Kohala Weight Lifting Club
Suits and Seats for Swimmers
Remember Thru Music**

2019 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Sponsored projects received \$432,214 through grants and community contributions.
- With broad based community support, Kohala Elementary School Kindergarten and Preschool Playground Project raised the funds necessary to rebuild the playground.
- After five years on the air Kohala Radio has received their independent FCC License.
- The team behind Ho'ōla Honey Bee Relocation rescued and relocated their 108th bee colony to North Kohala where the bees can provide pollination to local farms and gardens in support of a sustainable thriving food system.
- Malama Kohala Kahakai in collaboration with Kohala Lihikai and support from the Hawaii County Open Space Maintenance Fund worked with Kohala High School students on stewardship activities at Pao'o and Kaiholena.



KOHALA WEIGHT LIFTING CLUB

2019 COMPLETED PROJECTS

Thank you to these valuable projects that have served, created a positive impact in our community and have completed their work with NKCRC at this time.

**Angel Fund
KES 1st Lego League
KHS College Tour
Kohala Baseball League
Nutrition Farming**



REMEMBER THRU MUSIC



SUITS AND SEATS FOR SWIMMERS

SPRING WORKSHOP OFFERINGS

Our workshops are designed to help organizers plan successful community projects, find funding, and write proposals. This spring we're offering **Building Budgets, Finding Funders and Writing and Critiquing Successful Proposals**. Class dates will be set based on participant response.

The workshops are free to organizers of projects that have been accepted for fiscal sponsorship. Participants without our sponsorship may attend on a fee basis. Classes are held at our office on Akoni Pule Highway in Hawi. Please call the Center for more information or to register, 889-5523

NEW DIRECTORS 2019

We are honored to welcome these dedicated and engaged community members to our Board of Directors. We look forward to the value and enrichment their presence will bring to our organization.



Kelly Ah Hee
General Manager

Kelly graduated from Kohala High School in 1998 and went on to earn his BA in Economics from the University of Nevada Las Vegas. Currently, he brings his valuable and diverse skillset to his role as the General Manager of Security and Landscaping for NAH Security Services. In addition to enjoying quality time with his family, Kelly finds meaning through his volunteer service at various community events.



Beth Bohn
Small Business Owner

A graduate of Punahou School and Lewis and Clark College Beth spent 30 years in the hospitality industry in Hawaii and beyond. She is an active member in the North Hawaii chapter of 100 Women Who Care, and a Director for the group Remember Thru Music. Beth enjoys participating in the Hawaiian arts of lauhala weaving and lei making, as well a spending time in the ocean.



Melanie Matsuda
Kohala Elementary School Teacher

Born and raised here in North Kohala, Melanie is a Kohala High School alum who received her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from UH Manoa. After 9 years of being away from home, Melanie graciously made the decision to come back to Kohala to teach where she went to elementary school. She always knew she wanted to give back to the precious community that helped raise her. Talk about full circle!



Sydney Wiernicki
Youth Director – Kohala High School

Sydney Wiernicki is a member of Kohala High School Class of 2021. She enjoys swimming at the beach, riding horses, and prefers dogs over cats. She grew up in North Kohala and is proud to say that she is a result of what our amazing community has to offer. One of her goals is to provide the upcoming keiki in our town with even more opportunities than she had



Grace Todd
Youth Director- Kohala High School

Grace Todd is a junior at Kohala High School, member of the Student Council, the School Community Council as well as multiple planning committees. Outside of school, she performs as a member of the Kahilu Theater Youth Troupe and conducts research as a Mauna Kea Scholar. She hopes to positively influence the community by standing as a voice for the youth and young adults of Kohala.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

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Gino Amar, *Treasurer*
Beth Bohn, *Secretary*
Chris Brown, *Vice President*
Michelle Kawai
Vicky Kometani, *President*
Melanie Matsuda
Wendy Nickl
Kim Takata

YOUTH DIRECTORS

Morgan Davis
Kaya-Lee Galan
Grace Todd
Sydney Wiernicki

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Jessica Brown
Lani Bowman
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David Gomes
Chris Helmuth
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Dennis Matsuda
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STAFF

Christine Richardson,
Executive Director
Leslie Nugent, *Associate Director*
Denni Keyes, *Executive Assistant*

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*We apologize if we inadvertently omitted or misspelled your name.
Please call the Center at 889-5523 to make any corrections. Mahalo!*

NORTH KOHALA

COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

*Providing Local Support, Bridges to Funding and
Education for Projects that Benefit the Community*

P.O. Box 519
Hawi, Hawaii 96719

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Have you considered a Legacy Gift?

By making a gift in your will or trust to
NKCRC, you will add to North Kohala's
Legacy of Giving and ensure the future of the
Resource Center's work.

For more
information,
please call
Christine at 889-5523



Tee it up for Big Impact!

Mark your
calendars for
NKCRC's 3rd
Annual Golf
Tournament
on Saturday,
March 14, 2020
at the Hapuna
Golf Course.
Please call, stop
by the Center

or register online at www.northkohala.org by
March 10. Mahalo to all our players, sponsors and
community members who contribute to making
this fundraising event a great success in support of
the Center!

