

December 18, 2024

## **Summary of Activities 2024**

Our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation Luncheon Meeting and Scholarship Fundraiser will be Saturday, January 11, 2025. This will be the fourth year we will present the Mitsuo Aoki, "Community Service Award" honoring and thanking members of the Hawaii Community who have provided outstanding service in end-of-life care. This year we will celebrate and thank Hob Osterlund, APRN who was instrumental in creating the Queen's Medical Center Pain and Palliative Care Program.

We celebrated our 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation Meeting and Scholarship Fundraiser January 13, 2024. Everyone had a wonderful time honoring Dr. Rae Seitz and Dr. Pat Nishimoto, enjoying the live music of Dr. Jon Osorio and hearing from Dr. Noreen Mokuau, Linda Kaleo Paik and Dr. Claire Hughes, leaders in the Hawaiian community and featured in the book **Ka Māno Wai**: **The Source of Life**. **Big Island Candies** donated all of the delicious favors for participants. Please see past honorees and past meeting speakers at <a href="https://mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org/past-activities">https://mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org/past-activities</a> for more information.

Fundraising to establish the Dr. Reverend Mitsuo Aoki Scholarship was initiated December 2023. This is to be used for supporting college students and professionals to learn how to best care for people during serious illness and the end-of-life journey. This was Dr. Aoki's life work. Our gratitude to all who have donated for this worthy cause. So far, we have raised \$21,207 for the scholarship fund.

Our board of directors met with Eric La'a, Philanthropic Advisor, with the Hawaii Community Foundation (HCF) to understand and pursue the best way to create and award grants or scholarships in the name of Dr. Aoki through HCF. We are exploring a way that would be of the greatest benefit for the Hawaii community and would be self-sustaining and perpetuated into the future. So far, it appears that an "Endowed Scholarship" would be the best fit for the long run and provides possible favorable tax advantages for donors under current laws governing non-profit 501 (c) (3) donations (as determined by individual circumstances and in consultation with a tax professional).

We will keep you informed as we are exploring further details. According to Mr. La'a, HCF guidelines require a minimum of \$50,000.00 to start an endowed scholarship which would create an investment which could yield enough income, depending on market returns, to sustain an individual student scholarship. This will be our next goal. We are glad to discuss this further with you if you have any questions.

We presented two 20 hour trainings Mar/Apr 2023 and again in Feb/March 2024, based on Dr. Aoki's work. We partnered with Hawaii Pacific Health to provide continuing education credits for social workers, psychologists, nurses and physicians who participated and the public was invited. People could register for 1 or all of the sessions. More than 230 people registered for the two scheduled series. We also partnered with Kokua Mau for logistical support and subject matter expertise and with the Tzu Chi Buddhist Foundation where we held the 2023 in-person classes. This training has been scheduled again for February and March of 2025 and has HPH CEU approval.

The work Dr. Aoki pioneered also continues through the following Foundation activities:

"Hand In Hand" Monthly grief support group for those who have lost a loved one. Free Held in person on first Wednesday morning in Pearlridge area. Call for information (808) 741-5733	Sponsored & co-lead; 2 zoom presentations on Grieving During the Holidays (2023 & 11/24) (https://mitsaokilegacyfoundation/activities))
Co-leading the Bereavement Network of Hawaii <a href="https://kokuamau.org/grief-and-bereavement/">https://kokuamau.org/grief-and-bereavement/</a> Support, networking and education for professionals who work in the fields of caring for people who are grieving.	Published Generations Magazine Articles MAR/APR 2024 "Grieving the Loss of a Pet" Nov/Dec 2024 "Holidays Without your Loved Ones", <a href="https://mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org/activities">https://mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org/activities</a>
Funded digitization of <b>35 additional videos</b> to add to the Mitsuo Aoki Video Collection at Ulu Ulu Moving Image Archive of Hawaii, at UH West Oahu <a href="https://mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org/univ-of-hawai%60i-archives">https://mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org/univ-of-hawai%60i-archives</a>	Consulting and presenting with Hui Pohala Monthly 10 session PEACE Series March to Dec 2024 to increase palliative care capacity in Hawaii in the areas of social work and spiritual care <a href="https://huipohala.org/resources/">https://huipohala.org/resources/</a>
Volunteer counseling with individuals and families in the community	Maintaining and updating our website, <a href="https://mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org">https://mitsaokilegacyfoundation.org</a> Please check it out!
Guest Speaking Chaminade, UH Manoa School of Social Work, HPU Social Work, Tzu Chi Buddhist Foundation	Community Member of two hospital Ethics Committees which consult with hospital staff, patients, families and administration on complex biopsychosocial/medical care ethical issues

The Mits Aoki Legacy Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization funded solely with donations such as yours. Our FEIN is 45-3010655. Please consult with your tax preparer regarding claiming a charitable deduction. There were no gifts or services provided in return for this donation