



COUNCIL FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN ADVANCEMENT

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DHHL'S HOME OWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM WELL-RECEIVED

Honolulu, HI – Over 300 individuals and families attend Home Ownership Assistance Program (HOAP) workshops sponsored by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) and conducted by the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA). Three workshops have been delivered during the month of April on the islands of Oahu, Molokai and Hawaii.

One of the sessions held on April 13, 2005, at the Makaha Resort Golf Club, attracted one of the largest gatherings this month, with participants from the Leeward side of Oahu. Hawaiian Homes Commission Chairman Micah Kane addressed the standing room only crowd about the developments coming to Oahu and the benefit in preparing financially to qualify for a home. Several local nonprofits were on hand to assist attendees in locating down payment programs and to sign up to work on credit scores and learn the process of obtaining a mortgage loan.

“One of the most common barriers to homeownership is qualifying for a home loan,” said Robin Danner, CNHA’s President & CEO. “DHHL has created a powerful program and opportunity for individuals and families to get assistance to do just that.”

The Home Ownership Assistance Program (HOAP) is an innovative program designed by DHHL to match beneficiaries with the thousands of housing opportunities that will be developed over the next five years. Through HOAP, Native Hawaiians will receive access to resources that will improve their understanding of what it takes to achieve homeownership, increase the likelihood of qualifying for a loan and access personalized assistance in repairing credit and reducing debt.

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More of these FREE Orientation Sessions will be held statewide from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. on the following dates:

- May 11, 2005 – Kealakehe Elementary School, Hawaii
- May 18, 2005 – Kauai Veteran's Hall, Kauai
- June 1, 2005 – Lanai High School, Lanai
- July 6, 2005 – Lahaina Civic Center, Maui
- July 13, 2005 – Blanche Pope Elementary School in Waimanalo, Oahu

DHHL's HOAP program is administered by the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement. To register today or for more information, contact the HOAP Call Center from Oahu at 791.3403 or toll-free from the neighbor islands at 866.897.4384. Inquiries can also be made to info@dhhhoap.org.

CNHA is a national member-based non-profit dedicated to providing support services to agencies and organizations that focus on or deliver programs in Native communities. For more information, please call 808.521.5011 (toll free at 800.709.2642) or visit www.hawaiiancouncil.org.

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