

West Hawai'i Mediation Center

---

Annual Report FY 2024-2025



**We help people resolve conflict.**

## A Message from the Executive Director

Over the last year, we allowed our **mission** to help people resolve conflict guide our assessments and our planning for the future. We recognized the good work we've done to engage youth in peer mediation, grow restorative justice partnerships, and strengthen our volunteer mediator capacity. And we're excited to live into our **vision** to be trusted partners in order to cultivate a culture of peace in West Hawai'i.

A lot of hard work from the WHMC board, staff, volunteers, and community members have gone into our 2025 - 2030 Strategic Plan. And while this is an important marker; we see clearly the work in front of us, and we invite you to be a part of the journey, to support the work, help us share our story, and hold us accountable.

So, here are our big picture goals of our 2025-2030 Strategic Plan:

- 1) Increase awareness and presence of WHMC and our services in the community.
- 2) Empower clients in conflict by providing skilled and engaged volunteer mediators to facilitate effective mediations.
- 3) Provide effective conflict resolution for youth: in schools and with youth organizations.
- 4) Sustain and grow restorative justice alternatives in West Hawai'i.
- 5) Identify and diversify consistent funding sources for the financial stability of WHMC.
- 6) Strengthen WHMC leadership.

If you want to see the full Strategic Plan, you can find it on our website. While this process is integral to moving forward, I'm also proud of the work and accomplishments we provided to the community to help people resolve conflict. So I hope you take time to read our Annual Report and celebrate with us. Peace and Aloha ~ Eric Paul, Executive Director



2024 Holiday Staff Lunch

---

## Our Mission & Values

Our mission is to help people resolve conflict. And, we've been doing it faithfully for over 37 years. We aid in building a culture of peace in West Hawai'i through mediation in the community and school system, through conflict resolution education, and restorative justice practices. West Hawai'i Mediation Center is a 501(c)3 non-profit.

# Program Highlights

## Community Mediation

- 42 Volunteer Mediators Utilized
- 3,397 Volunteer Hours
- 317 Total Cases Served
- 639 Clients Served

## Peer Mediation

- 177 Students Trained to Peer Mediate
- 87 Peer Mediations Conducted
- 6 Partner Schools

## Restorative Justice

- 6 Victim Offender Conferences
- 19 Clients Served
- 4 New Volunteers

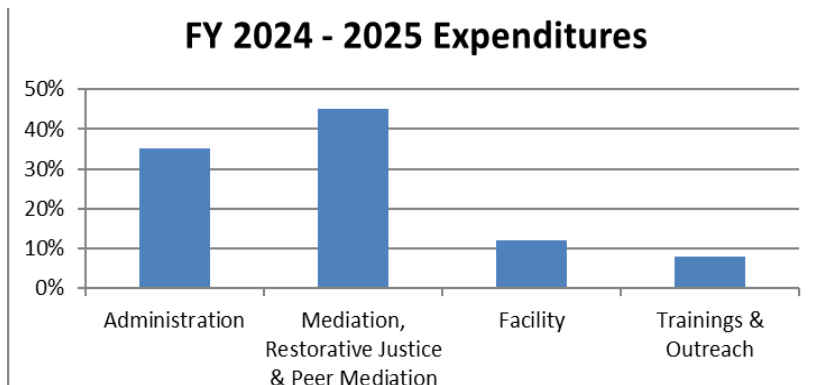


2025 Pickleball Fundraiser



Basic Mediation Training

## Financials



**FY 2024 - 2025**

Total Income & Expense	
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$346,046.74</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>\$380,067.81</b>

**Administration:** Salaries, Medical Insurance , Professional Fees & Supplies

**Mediation, Peer Mediation & Restorative Justice Programs:** Salaries, Medical Insurance, Mileage & Supplies

**Facility:** Rent, Electricity, Phone, Internet & Equipment

**Trainings & Outreach:** Training Expenses for Community/Staff/Volunteer & Training Mileage

## Friends of the Center

### **\$5,000**

Barbara Hodgson  
Joyce Muktarian & Bob Acree  
Myslicki Family Fund

### **\$2,000 - \$3,000**

LeRoy Grose  
Nelson Hairtson, Jr.  
Timothy Hansen  
Margarita Scheffel  
Niel Thomas

### **\$1,000**

Charles Greenfield  
Susan and Matthew Russell

### **\$500 - \$750**

Charlene Nishida  
Christyn Stroud

### **\$200 - \$300**

David Brophy  
Paul Darr  
Hawaii USA Federal Credit Union  
Anthony Tumasone  
Waimea Community Association

### **Up to \$175**

Stephanie Beeby  
Laura Caverly  
Patty Cook  
The Honorable Wendy DeWeese  
Stacy Disney & Walt Disney, Jr.  
Harold Hall  
Etsuko Ji  
Marion K A Kapuaniai  
Jessica McCullum  
Diane Petropulos  
William Quayle  
Marsha Speck  
The Honorable Kimberly Taniyama  
Patricia Tompson  
Visitor Aloha Society of Hawaii (VASH)  
Sherman Warner  
Kelsie Wehren  
George Winchell

**Thank you to our generous supporters  
who make WHMC's work possible!**

## Grants & Awards

Clarence T.C. Ching Foundation  
County of Hawai'i – Contingency Relief Funds from Councilmember Holeka Inaba  
Hawai'i Island United Way  
Hawai'i Justice Foundation  
Hawai'i State Bar Foundation  
Hawai'i Women's Legal Foundation  
Hawaiian Electric  
Kūki'o Ho'omana Fund  
Kona Brewers Festival  
Marbrook Foundation  
Richard Smart Fund of the Hawai'i Community Foundation  
Rotary Club of Kona  
State of Hawai'i Judiciary  
West Hawai'i Fund of the Hawai'i Community Foundation

# Programs

## Community Mediation

This year marked a period of significant activity and development for the general mediation program. The program welcomed seven new mediators after our annual Basic Mediation Training in April, which was at full capacity! A first ever mentor training program was successfully implemented resulting in six new trained mentors who will support annual and apprentice observations.

We are proud to celebrate the outstanding contributions of our dedicated volunteer mediators, whose efforts have made a meaningful impact over the past period. A total of 256 new cases were opened, with an impressive 105 reaching agreement, many thanks to the skill and compassion of our mediators. There were 168 mediations held, with more agreements than mediations due to successful conciliations outside of formal sessions. While 55 mediations ended without agreement, and 101 cases were closed without mediation, each case represented an opportunity for peaceful communication. Our referrals were largely self-initiated (102) and court-referred, including 94 from district court and 45 from family court. The majority of case types were domestic (112), followed by landlord-tenant (36), consumer/merchant (29), and TRO-related matters (26). A total of 39 mediators volunteered their time, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude to each of them for their unwavering commitment to fostering resolution in our community.



2025 Volunteer Appreciation Gathering

---



Waimea Judge Talk Story with Mediators

---



2025 Basic Mediation Trainees

---



Mahalo KTA & Big Island Candies for donating to our volunteer appreciation!

---

# Programs Continued

## Restorative Justice

We celebrated our second year for our Restorative Justice Program in Victim Offender Conferencing. We work with community groups to create spaces that address harm by building accountability and repair, collaborative dialogue, and meeting needs of those who have been harmed. In short, Restorative Justice works to make things pono. Over the past year we have:

- Led a 16 hour Victim Offender Conferencing (VOC) training. 8 people were trained 4 of which have signed up to be volunteer facilitators!
- We completed 6 VOCs referred from the prosecutor's office.
- Surveys from our VOC participants continue to be positive.
- Implemented a Restorative Justice Direct referral card.
- Conducted 2 informational presentations for the Community Police officers resulting in 3 referrals.



Waiakea High School Restorative Justice Outreach  
with The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney



Honaunau Elementary Peer Mediation Training

## Peer Mediation

WHMC works with elementary and middle schools through West Hawai'i to provide conflict resolution and peer mediation training in public and private schools. Our network of relationships with teachers and administrators on multiple campuses continues to expand. Our support through peer mediation continues to gain traction, with opportunities for both training school staff and mediating school conflicts taking root. Over the course of fiscal year 2024 - 2025 WHMC peer mediation program accomplished:

- Completed 177 new students trained to peer mediate.
- 87 mediations completed.
- Retained 6 partner schools.

We remain grateful to both Kūki'o Ho'omana Fund & Rotary Club of Kona for their support.

## Staff

Eric Paul, Executive Director  
Gina Agustin, Mediation Program Manager  
Jennifer Halley, Finance Manager  
Kate Sims, Mediation Coordinator  
Cietta Penn, Restorative Justice Coordinator  
Katrina Zavalney, Peer Mediation Coordinator

## Board of Directors

Charles Greenfield – President  
Charlene Nishida – Vice President  
Nelson Hairston Jr. – Secretary  
George Winchell – Treasurer  
Paul Darr – Co-Treasurer  
Sean Duim – Director  
Stephanie Beeby – Director

## Volunteers

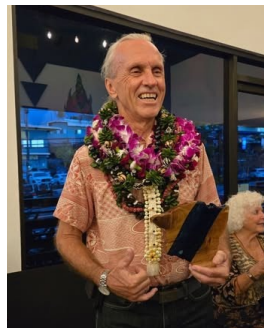
Stephanie Barnett  
Meiko Blosser  
Alice Cadow  
Michele Chavez-Pardini  
David Ellis  
Ananda Fischer  
Sharlene Gee  
Giovanna Gherardi  
LeRoy Grose  
Doug Grote  
Nelson Hairston, Jr.  
Whit Hairston  
Harold Hall  
Jeri Hall  
Tim Hansen  
Grayson Hashida  
The Honorable Mahilani Hiatt

Christine Hijirida  
Barbara Hodgson  
Teri Hollowell  
Mark Holst  
Emma Hsu  
Kawehi Inaba  
Kilihea Inaba  
Joan Jackson  
Dan Joannis  
Doug Johnson  
Linda Jeffrey  
Kaleihua Kahale-Miner  
Deb Knox  
Tahiti Kulia  
Rae Lieff-Axelbank  
Kyla Livingston  
Janet Love

Na Young Ma  
Scott Mahoney  
Yoav Melamed  
Mary Mowdy  
Joyce Muktarian  
David Perkins  
Cecilia Poblete  
A.K. Shingle  
Marsha Speck  
Elisa Stone  
Niel Thomas  
Beth Wilson  
George Winchell  
Nancy Young  
Audra Zook



2025 WHMC Staff & Board Volunteer @  
Kona Brewers Festival



2024 Peacebuilder  
Franz Weber



2025 Strategic Planning Meeting

## WHMC AFFILIATIONS

