

KA HŪLILI



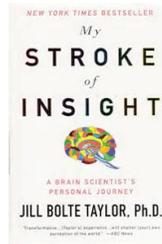
NASW Hawaii Chapter Newsletter

Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have.

-Margaret Mead



2015 NASW AWARD DINNER:
THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!



BOOK REVIEW: MY
STROKE OF INSIGHT



MEMBER PROFILE:
BRANDON KANG,
MSW, LSW

HPU Hosts Homelessness Awareness Week

HPU School of Social Work spent a week focusing on the topic of Homelessness and encouraging engagement in this important issue. HPU hosted a several events: service projects, educational events and dialogues, a community resource fair, and engagement through the arts.

The focus of the week of March 27- April 2 was to involve the community in a discussion about what and how Hawai'i became the state with the highest rate of homelessness in the nation and what we can do to compassionately combat this issue.

The week was framed by the Hawaiian values of pono (acceptance and purposefulness), kuleana (responsibility and concern) and aloha (kindness and humility). The two key questions addressed were: How does our treatment of our homeless population reflect on our core values? Do our actions demonstrate an authentic commitment to our ideals, or reveal them as mere words?

Special guests included Author Steve Lopez, of "The Soloist", showings of the film based on his book of the same name, several community panel discussions, a play "Houseless in Paradise", a streetcar and an art exhibition entitled "The Urban Forest".



Letter from the President

Aloha Members,

When I was very young, I asked my aunty “aunty, what is the definition of Aloha?” I knew the word, and I thought I could feel it but I struggled at that young age to really define and articulate it in my mind. My aunty, a lifelong teacher and back then very involved in the “Second Hawaiian Renaissance” of the early seventies, told me this:

“Aloha is when you have most, you give the better part; and when you have the least, you give best you’ve got”

I am older now and know, as I am sure my aunt did back then that “Aloha” is too big a concept to be defined down to one sentence. But the gift she gave me was a way to conceptualize the essence of Aloha that my young mind could run with and grow from. That sentence still runs through my mind all the time though; especially when I see social workers in action.

Your chapter board have, in my mind exemplified that definition of Aloha and I am honored to be a part of this group and to be able to count myself among those who “give the best they’ve got and always the better part”.

As you know, the Chapter Board holds elections every year for board positions whose terms are coming to an end. This year, we have several key positions that will need to be filled. I encourage all of you awesome social workers out there to consider running for one of the positions. Nominate yourself; nominate your friends or colleagues! The only requirement is that you are a member and that you have a desire to serve the social work community of Hawaii.

Nominations will be accepted from now until May 10, 2015. Voting will be open from May 11, 2015 until June 11, 2015 and election results will be announced the week of June 22, 2015. Elected individuals start their new terms on July 1, 2015.

Positions up for election are:

President Elect – (serves a one year term in this position and a three year term as president.

Vice president – (serves a three year term)

*NASW Board
President*

*Eddie Mersereau,
CSAC, LCSW*



Please post your thoughts on how we as social workers can work to improve the status quo to our twitter feed #NASWHawaii or to our Facebook, National Association of Social Workers-Hawai'i Chapter, we want to hear from you!

Also, please check out our brand new website, we hope you will find it to be user friendly!

- Oahu Island Representative** – (serves a three year term)
- Molokai Island Representative** – (serves a three year term)
- Lanai Island Representative** – (serves a three year term)
- MSW Representative** – (serves a one year term)
- BSW Representative** – (serves a one year term)
- Nominations and Leadership Committee** – (serves a three year term)
- Nominations and Leadership Committee** – (serves a three year term)

I welcome all of you who are interested in giving *your* Aloha to the board and to the chapter, to get your nominations in.

Aloha,

Eddie

2014-2015 NASW Hawai'i Board of Directors

President: Eddie Mersereau,
LCSW, CSAC

Vice-President, Acting: Robin
Arndt, MSW, LSW

Treasurer: Gwen Murakami, MSW

Secretary: Mike Esquibil, LCSW

Members at Large:

Robin Arndt, MSW, LSW

Vicky Asayama, LSW, ACSW

Theresa Kreif, MSW, LSW

Lauren Wilson, MSW

**East Hawai'i Branch
Representative:**

Tim Hansen, MSW

West Hawai'i Branch

Representative: Brandon Kang,
MSW

Kaua'i Branch Representative:

Crystal Stoner, MSW

Maui Branch Representative:

Jessica Brazil, LCSW

MSW Student Representative:

Chris Slavens

BSW Student Representative:

Aaron Farias

**Awards & Nominations
Committee:**

Karissa Kinney, MSW

Ken Lee, MSW

Executive Director: Sonja Bigalke-
Bannan, MSW, LSW

NASW Hawai'i Chapter

677 Ala Moana Blvd. Suite 702

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808.521.1787

info@naswhi.org

www.naswhi.org

Upcoming Continuing Education Opportunities

Life Skills Coaching-1 CEU	When: Fri, April 24, 12pm – 1pm	Place: Queen's Conference Center, 510 S. Beretania, Honolulu, HI 96812	Call Camille Cristobal Phone: (808) 627-5246 Email: cuc@hawaii.edu
EMDR Part 1 & 2	When: May 6-9 & May 11-14	Place: QLCC Hilo	Call Frank Capatch (808) 956-5349
Housing Focused Outreach-1 CEU	When: Fri, May 8, 12pm – 1pm	Place: Queens Conference Center Auditorium (QCC) 510 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96812	Call Camille Cristobal Phone: (808) 627-5246 Email: cuc@hawaii.edu
Best Practices in Treatment & Rehabilitation of Traumatic Brain Injury in Military, Civilian & Sports participant Populations- 3 CEUs	When: Friday, May 22, 9am-12pm	Where: HPU-Windward campus, 45-045 Kamehameha Hwy, Kaneohe, HI 96744	Register online: http://hpu.edu/sw Cost: early bird registration \$45 (2 weeks before workshop), \$55 regular price, \$25 for students
Veterans' Services Update-1 CEU	When: Fri, June 19, 12pm – 1pm	Place: Queens Conference Center Auditorium (QCC) 510 South Beretania Street Honolulu, HI 96812	Call Camille Cristobal Phone: (808) 627-5246 Email: cuc@hawaii.edu
Ethical Practice & Technology- 3 CEUs	When: Friday, July 17, 9am-12pm	Where: HPU-Windward campus, 45-045 Kamehameha Hwy, Kaneohe, HI 96744	Register online: http://hpu.edu/sw Cost: early bird registration \$45 (2 weeks before workshop), \$55 regular price, \$25 for students

Member Profile: Brandon Kang

Q: What is the role of a Social Worker III?

A: Aloha kākou, (we, inclusive) I would first like to acknowledge and mahalo our Queen Lili'uokalani for her genius, compassion, and foresight that continues to inspire our work every day. I am honored and humbled to hana (work) for the Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center (QLCC) Kona unit for almost two years. My specific kuleana (responsibilities) consists of performing intake assessments for new 'ohana that request services, carrying a case load of 6-7 'ohana and support multiple programs that empower our 'ōpio (youth) via culturally equivalent modalities.

Q: What do you wish the general population knew about your work?

A: Allow me to quote the Queen Lili'uokalani Trustees (2014), "The Trust is a non-profit, social services organization which through its Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Centers (QLCC) provides programs, financial assistance, and other services to as many as 40,000 children annually. This is the primary mission of the Trust. Through these efforts, the Trust seeks to empower its beneficiaries and their families to achieve a form of, 'individual sovereignty': independence, self-sufficiency and a healthy, fulfilled life..." (Kaulukukui Jr, Yim & Asam, 2014). The target demographic according to Queen Lili'uokalani's Trust, is supporting orphan/half orphan Hawaiian children and 'ohana.

Q: How do clients access your services?

A: Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center has nine offices throughout Hawai'i nei, and community 'ohana who wish to know potential services may call the nearest office to them.

Q: What skill sets are important?

A: Ho'o Kūpono (to behave properly) values are the catalyst for our work: Aloha (affection, love), Hō'ihi (respect, be courteous, confidentiality), Hā'ahā'a (humble,

modest), Kōkua (to help, assist), Kuleana and many more.

Q: What do you find most satisfying about your job?

A: The opportunity to work for our Queen Lili'uokalani and our community 'ohana; 'oha in Hawaiian is the 1st new keiki of the kalo plant from the makua (parent), na=possession of us. Thus, we are 'ohana (new offspring from a sacred source) because of our makua & Kūpuna (elders) before us

Q: What do you do for self care?

A: Mālama for me looks like: Mālama 'Āina (take care of the land, which feeds us: 'Āi = eat, Na=possession of us) Mālama 'ohana, surfing & jiu-jitsu.

Q: How did you get into social work?

A: By finally having the courage to listen to my na'au (Intestines, bowels, guts; mind, heart, affections; of the heart or mind; mood, feelings) as well as the opportunity to be enrolled at UH Mānoa Distance Education MSW program.

Q: What is your most significant social work accomplishment?

A: Witnessing our 'ōpio and 'ohana mālama, empower and Aloha each other.

Q: Why are you an NASW member?

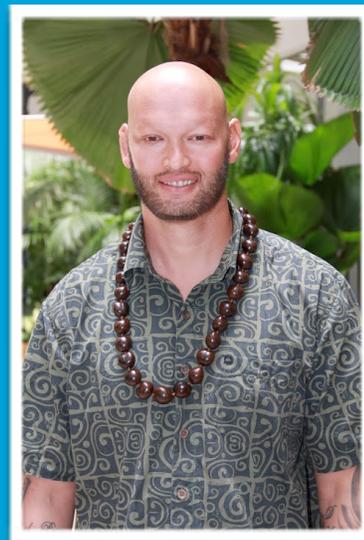
A: I believe our collective leo (voice, sound, advice) carries more mana (supernatural or divine power, to make powerful).

Q: What impact would you like to make on the field of Social Work?

A: I think our Queen said it best, "I could not turn back the time for political change, but there is still time to save our heritage. You must remember never to cease to act because you fear you may fail."

-Queen Lili'uokalani, 1917.

Mahalo nui & Mālama Pono



Name:
Brandon Kang,
MSW, LSW

Agency name & location: **Queen Liliuokalani Children's Center, Kona Unit**

Title:
Social Worker III

email:
bkang@qlcc.org

phone:
808-326-3855

School of Social Work:
UH Mānoa (Distance Education)

*All definitions are from Ulukau, Hawaiian dictionary.
www.ulukau.org



Hospice Social Worker

Hospice Maui is looking for a licensed MSW with a minimum of one (1) year experience in a healthcare setting to join our interdisciplinary team as a Hospice Social Worker and provide direct services to patients and caregivers in their homes.

For over 30 years, Hospice Maui, a private, non-profit organization, has provided the Maui Community with holistic, quality, and compassionate care for patients and their families.

This is a part-time position with flexible hours and full-time potential and includes rotation of on-call after hours, weekends and holidays.

The successful applicant will be able to effectively assess psychosocial needs, provide individual, family and group counseling, conduct crisis intervention, discharge planning, and community referrals. We are looking for an individual who possesses strong assessment and counseling skills, along with cultural sensitivity and a deep commitment to patient advocacy at the end of life. Preference is given to individuals with hospice or home healthcare experience. LSW is required, LCSW preferred.

Hospice Maui offers competitive pay and benefits, and a 403(b) plan.

Qualified applicants should submit a professional letter of interest and resume

to: *Employment@hospicemaui.org*

Background check and pre-employment drug testing required.

Please learn more about us at www.hospicemaui.org

Advertise in the NASW newsletter! Reach over 850 social workers in Hawai'i!

Advertising Rates Line classified: \$4.00 per line, approximately 35 characters, with a 5 line minimum.

Display advertisements with borders: business card size = \$30; 1/4 page = \$50; 1/2 page = \$75; full page = \$115.

Deadline for Receipt of articles: Usually the last Friday of the month for the following month. Call the Chapter office to verify the next printing of the newsletter and website posting (rates are per month).

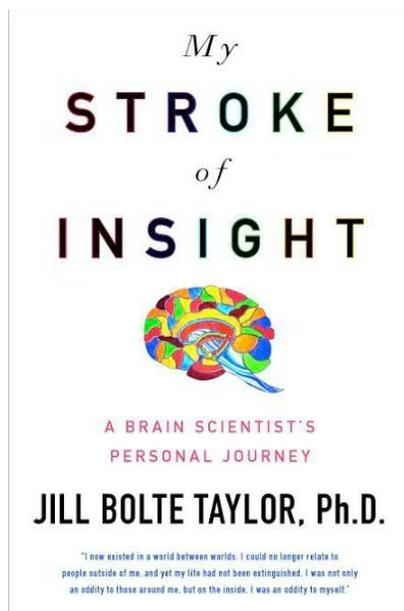
Advertisements may include employment, office space, seminars, or miscellaneous ads and will also be posted on our website for that month. Our website receives over 30,000 hits and over 3,000 individual visits each month.

Subscription Rate for non-members: \$20/year; Mailing labels one time rental= 25 cents per label.

Send information to: NASW Hawai'i Chapter, 677 Ala Moana Blvd. #702, Honolulu, HI 96813, Phone: 521-1787, Fax: 628-6990

NASW reserves the right to accept, reject or edit advertisements, articles and notices of events based on publication schedule, space limitations, and appropriateness. Publication of advertising copy does not constitute endorsement or approval of the contents therein of a book, other publications, points of view,

Book Review: My Stroke of Insight



My Stroke of Insight is a fascinating view of what happens to the mind and body during a stroke, as described by Jill Bolte Taylor, a Harvard trained brain scientist who experienced a stroke when she was 37. The book covers her arduous recovery process spanning more than 8 years. Bolte Taylor writes about the stroke being both a blessing and a revelation, giving her insight into finding feelings of wellbeing by “stepping to the right” of our left brains.

Her journey to tapping into the quiet and peace beyond the usual chatter in our heads is astounding and moving. This book is also a useful tool and roadmap for those experiencing brain injury or touched by someone in their lives who is. On a personal note, this book brought me great comfort after my grandfather suffered a massive stroke, this book provided suggestions such as playing music, which the author writes that she could hear and nothing else made sense and brought her peace. This book also offers a straightforward review of neurobiology.

—Reviewed by Sonja Bigalke-Bannan, MSW, LSW

Thank you for your service to NASW Hawai'i

**Special thanks to Nick Szubiak, MSW, LCSW
for your many years of service as the East
Hawai'i representative to NASW. We will miss
your vision and enthusiasm and hope that you
do great things in Washington D.C.!**



2015 NASW Annual Awards Dinner was a success!

On March 6, 180 Social Workers and their friends and guests gathered at the Hale Koa to celebrate the achievements of members in our field and to award scholarships to those just entering the field. Our key note Speaker Dr Maya Soetoro Ng and guest speaker Senator Josh Green gave us food for thought as we enjoyed our lovely meals. We hope you can join us next year!









