



HPGS Community Service Awardee, Albert (AI) Hamai

Albert (AI) Hamai is the President of the Hawaii Alliance of Retired Americans (HARA). The HARA has been instrumental in organizing the disparate retiree organizations of various union groups into one voice. As the HARA President, AI represents 21,000 members and is the spokesperson. The HARA, a statewide organization of retiree and community organizations, was established nearly 10 years ago to advocate the concerns of seniors and retirees. The HARA's affiliates include the American Federation of Teachers retirees, the Hawaii Family Caregivers Coalition, Hawaii Government Employees Association retirees, Hawaii State Teachers Association retirees, International Longshore and Warehouse Union retirees, the Kokua Council, Machinist Union retirees, United Public Workers retirees, and the Americans for Democratic Action-Hawaii. Nationally, the HARA is affiliated with the Alliance for Retired Americans, which has more than 3.4 million members committed to ensure social and economic justice and full civil rights for all citizens.

AI is described by his nominator as "an outstanding community and union leader for many years." He has been an effective voice for our elders at the legislature, year after year, in support of Kupuna Care legislations. AI also represents older adults in numerous other capacities including, but not limited to, his participation on the City and County's Elderly Affairs Division's Committee on Aging.