



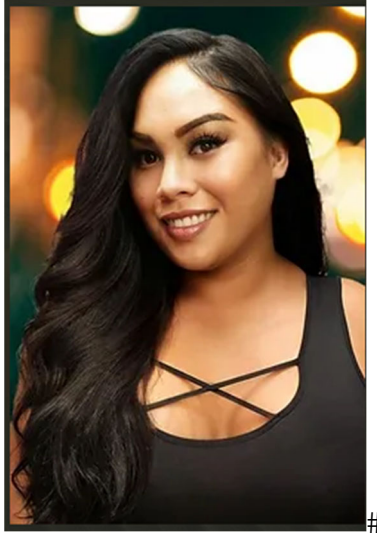
Dr. Mestisa C. Gass

Mestisa C. Gass, PsyD, is the Program Director for Mental Health America of Hawaii. Her education and experience has been focused on diverse populations including inpatient acute adolescent care, community mental health, and military mental health. She is Co-chair for the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention- Hawaii chapter, a member of the Mental Health Task Force and Statewide Suicide Prevention Task Force, and an advisory board member for the Waipahu Aloha Clubhouse. Since 2006, she has been working in Hawai'i, being originally from the Appalachian Mountains. Dr. Gass is passionate about bringing education, support, and resources to all communities, especially rural areas like those in which she grew up.



Maddison Moliga

Maddison Moliga brings a fresh new perspective to the Kua'ana Project and the Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center through her personal lived experiences and now professional journey. Maddison is a Samoan-American Transwoman who works closely with other service providers to end overdose and serve our drug using and stigmatized and underserved communities. As a new addition to the Kua'ana project she hopes to provide adequate and inclusive services for the transgender communities through advocacy, outreach, and support services. She can navigate her clients through many systematic resources including 1:1 needle exchange, transgender social services, overdose prevention, housing navigation and crisis intervention. Her mission is to ensure that all transgender individuals have a safe space to flourish and prosper. Maddison continues to build connections within the community to better serve program participants.



Shalani “Shalani Dante” Placencia

Shalani “Shalani Dante” Placencia has been a part of the HHHRC family since 2017, at that time as part of Life Foundation. Shalani, a transgender woman of Hawaiian Filipino Russian descent, joined Life Foundation in 2017 as a Peer Navigator under the Kua’ana Project. Throughout the years, Shalani also participated in the syringe exchange/ Outreach and HIV testing programs, and she has helped her Trans bothers and sisters obtain name changes, and gender markers. She also has helped with hygiene, transportation, and referrals to housing opportunities. Shalani has dedicated her work to HIV awareness and reducing the stigma of HIV in her community.



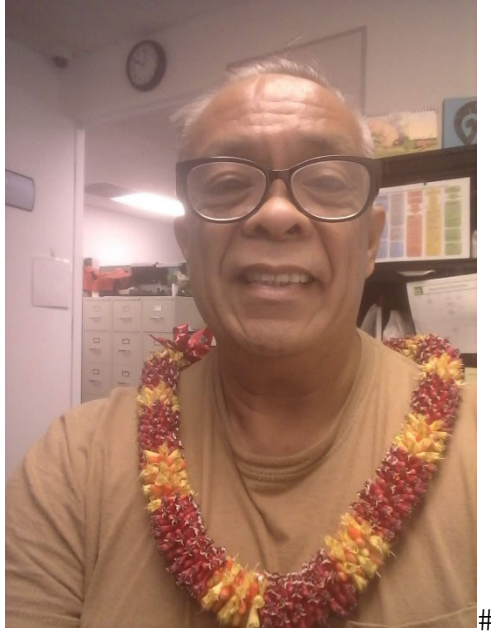
Maddalynn Seseapasara

Maddalynn is a pillar of the transgender community in Hawaii. Through her inspiration and leadership 20+ years, she has touched many lives by being the guiding light for transmen and transwomen to live their authentic truths. As a showgirl and Entertainer, Maddalynn naturally became a leading voice in the LGBTQIA+ community and used her platform to advocate transgender equality. Within the community she continues to be a role model and mentor for local transgender youths in Hawaii, supporting their growth and helping them navigate life, health, and relationships while making safe choices.



Kekoaopololū (Kekoa) Kealoha

Kekoaopololū (Kekoa) Kealoha, HIV Program Manager at HHHRC, has been working in HIV care and prevention for nearly eight years. Having served communities on both Hawai'i Island and O'ahu, Kekoa understands many of the unique challenges that face kanaka maoli in urban, suburban, and rural settings and has actively worked to resolve them. Himself a Native Hawaiian, Kekoa is passionate about serving kanaka maoli communities and creating equitable opportunities for them. Kekoa grew up in Kohala where he was immersed in his culture and surrounded by people who continue to inspire his work today.



Raymond Alejo

Raymond S. Alejo is the Community Registered Nurse for the Hawai'i Health and Harm Reduction Center (HHHRC). A key component of Raymond's role at HHHRC is serving as a community health nurse for people living with HIV on O'ahu Island. In addition to the great work Raymond does for the communities living with HIV, as HHHRC's Community Registered Nurse, Raymond also conducts multiple outreach and wound care efforts in the community and provides counseling and testing for HIV and Hepatitis C services in jails and prisons.