

2700 Waialae Avenue Honolulu, Hawaii 96826 808.356.2200 • HawaiianHumane.org

NEWS RELEASE

Media Contact:

Jessica Tronoski, Communications Manager jtronoski@hawaiianhumane.org | 808-356-2206

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hawaiian Humane celebrates the grand opening of the Pet Kōkua Outreach Center in Waipahu

HONOLULU, HI (March 8, 2021) – Hawaiian Humane Society is celebrating the grand opening of a new satellite location aimed at improving access to certain services with a traditional Hawaiian blessing on Wednesday, March 10 at 10 am. The Pet Kōkua Outreach Center is located inside the Filipino Community Center in Waipahu and offers Pet Food Bank services, information on reduced or waived-fee spay/neuter and other support to pet owners in need.

"We know that for many of members of our community, distance to Hawaiian Humane's Mō'ili'ili campus is a large obstacle to accessing our services. Travel times can take up to three hours round-trip on public transportation." Says Suzy Tam, Manager of Community Outreach and Partnerships at Hawaiian Humane. "We're thrilled that this new outreach center significantly improves access to our services for residents in Central, North and West O'ahu."

Hawaiian Humane Society's Pet Kōkua program, which encompasses the Waipahu outreach center, is a vital service in the prevention of owner surrender, animal cruelty, neglect and pet overpopulation. The mission of the Pet Kōkua program is to keep pets and their people together and improve the quality of life for all animals by providing assistance to those in need. Between March 2020 and February 2021 Pet Kōkua distributed 50,000 pounds of pet food—a 160% increase YOY. The Pet Kōkua program also holds multiple events throughout the year including reduced-fee microchipping and vaccination clinics, and wellness events with Oahu's unsheltered communities.

Hawaiian Humane's Pet Kōkua Outreach Center in Waipahu offers services Sunday – Thursday. Please visit HawaiianHumane.org/Outreach-Center-Waipahu for more information and hours of operation.

Details regarding the blessing are as follows:

WHERE:

Hawaiian Humane's Pet Kōkua Outreach Center at the Filipino Community Center 94-428 Mokuola Street, Suite 214A Waipahu, HI 96797

WHEN:

Wednesday March 10, 2021, 10:00 am

DETAILS:

Due to limited space and COVID-19 considerations, please RSVP to jtronoski@hawaiianhumane.org if live coverage of the event is preferred. However, high-resolution b-roll and photographs will be available by request immediately following the conclusion of the blessing.

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About the Hawaiian Humane Society

The Hawaiian Humane Society is an education and advocacy organization that shelters, protects, rescues, reunites and rehomes animals. It is O'ahu's largest animal welfare organization that is a resource for all animals. Established in 1883, the nonprofit organization is not a chapter of any group as there is no national humane society. Visit HawaiianHumane.org to learn more.