

Image © Solomon Enos

***Ke Kānāwai Māmalahoe:***  
*Moving Evidence into  
Hawai'i State Health Policy for  
Research, Practice and  
Programmatic Decision Making*

**Office of Hawaiian Affairs**

Updated and Presented  
Friday, October 14, 2016  
3:00 – 4:15pm

**Ms. Deja Ostrowski, JD**  
**Ms. Kealoha Fox, PhD (ABD), MA**

**2016 He Huliau, International Indigenous Health Summit**

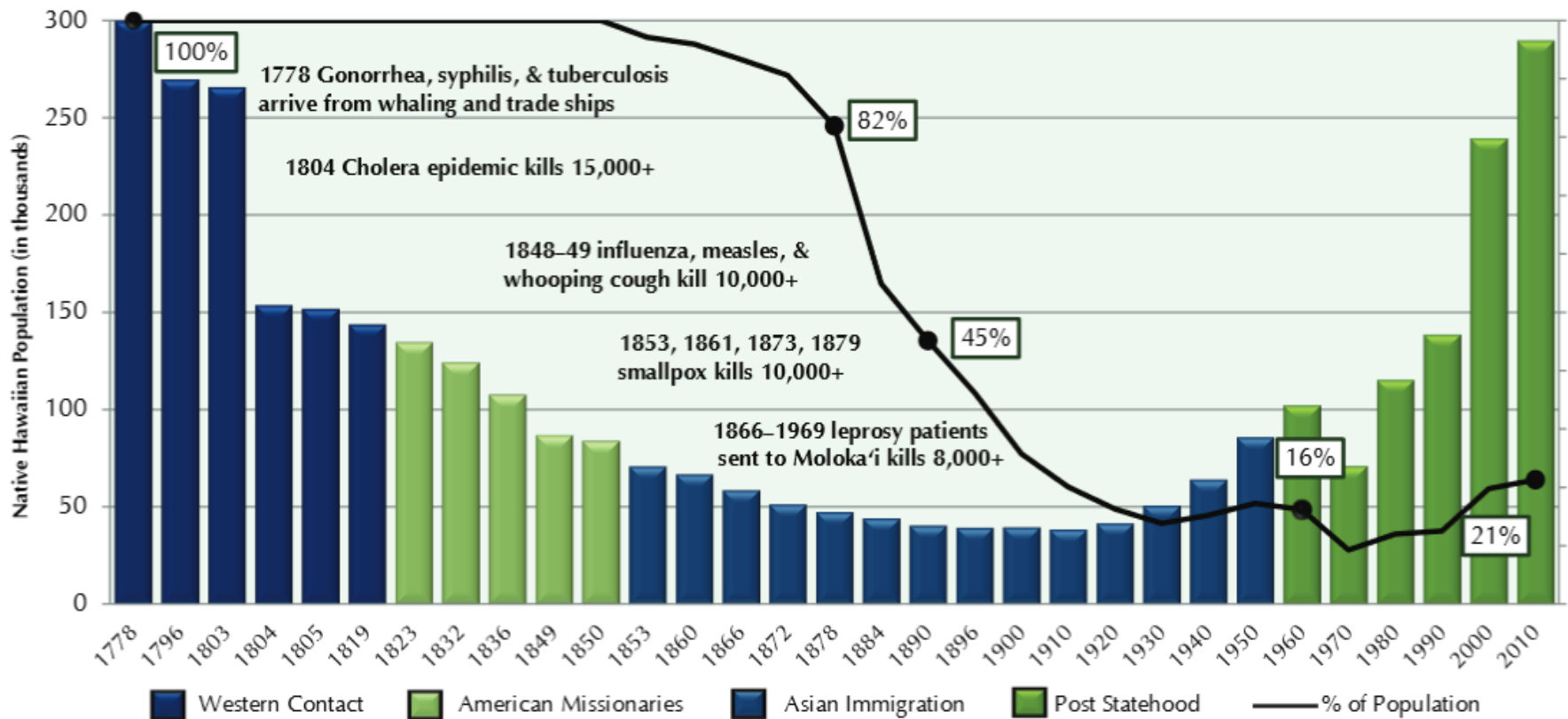


## PRESENTATION SUMMARY

Research shows that there is a Native Hawaiian public health crisis where 44% Native Hawaiians adults are obese and 75% Native Hawaiians are at risk of becoming obese – higher than any other ethnic group in the state. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) is committed to working to improve the health and well-being of Native Hawaiians through strategic approaches that integrate culture. OHA's approach is rooted in a holistic understanding of **mauli ola**: *that the entirety of our well-being contributes to the health of ourselves and the larger community*. By empowering partners both inside the health field and other areas, we seek to improve state policy that leads to effective use of resources and better health outcomes for all.

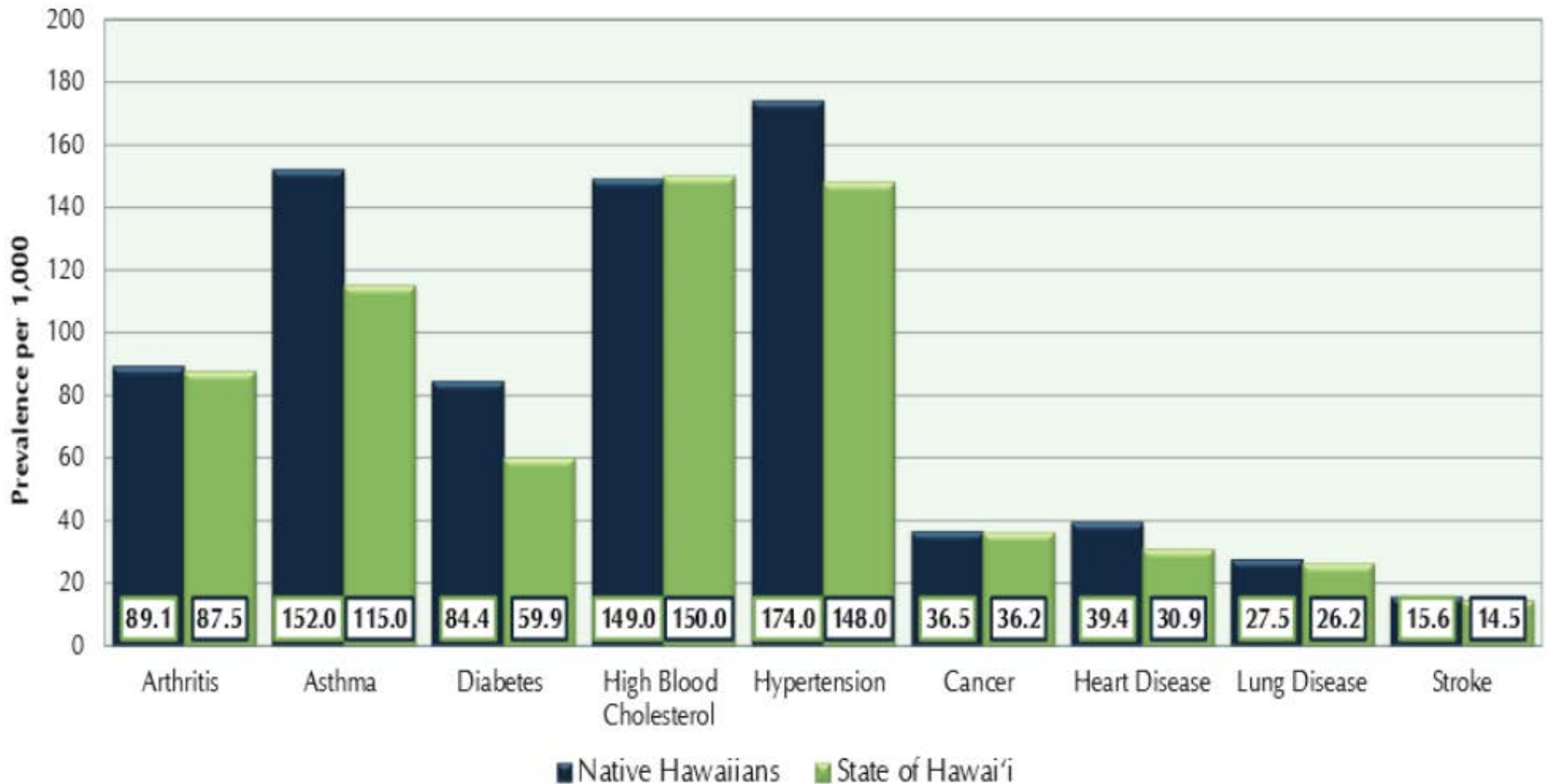
**OHA RESEARCH & DATA**

Figure 1. Native Hawaiian Population Trends in Hawai'i: 1778–2010

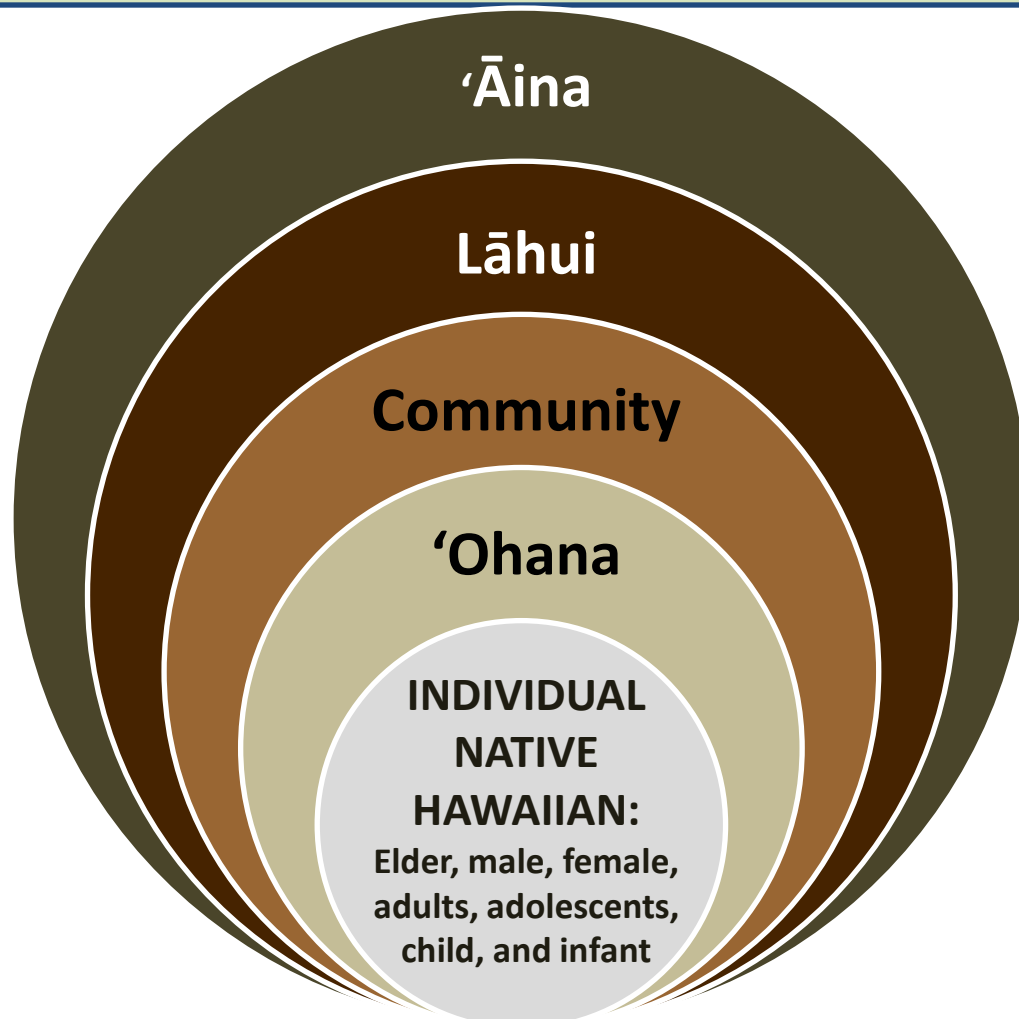


Sources. Schmitt, 1968, 1970, 1977. Hope & Hope, 2003. U.S. Census Bureau, 2010. KALA, 2014.

## SELECTED CHRONIC & OTHER HEALTH CONDITIONS



## LAYERS OF WELL-BEING



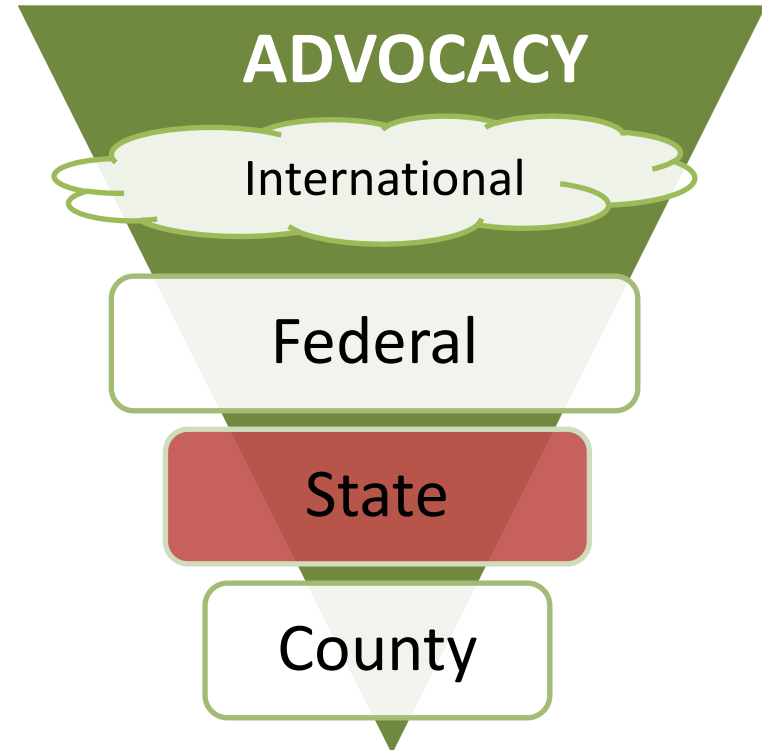
### **An Ecological Model Of Native Hawaiian Well-Being.**

This model examines each of these arenas in relation to achieving and sustaining Native Hawaiian well-being.

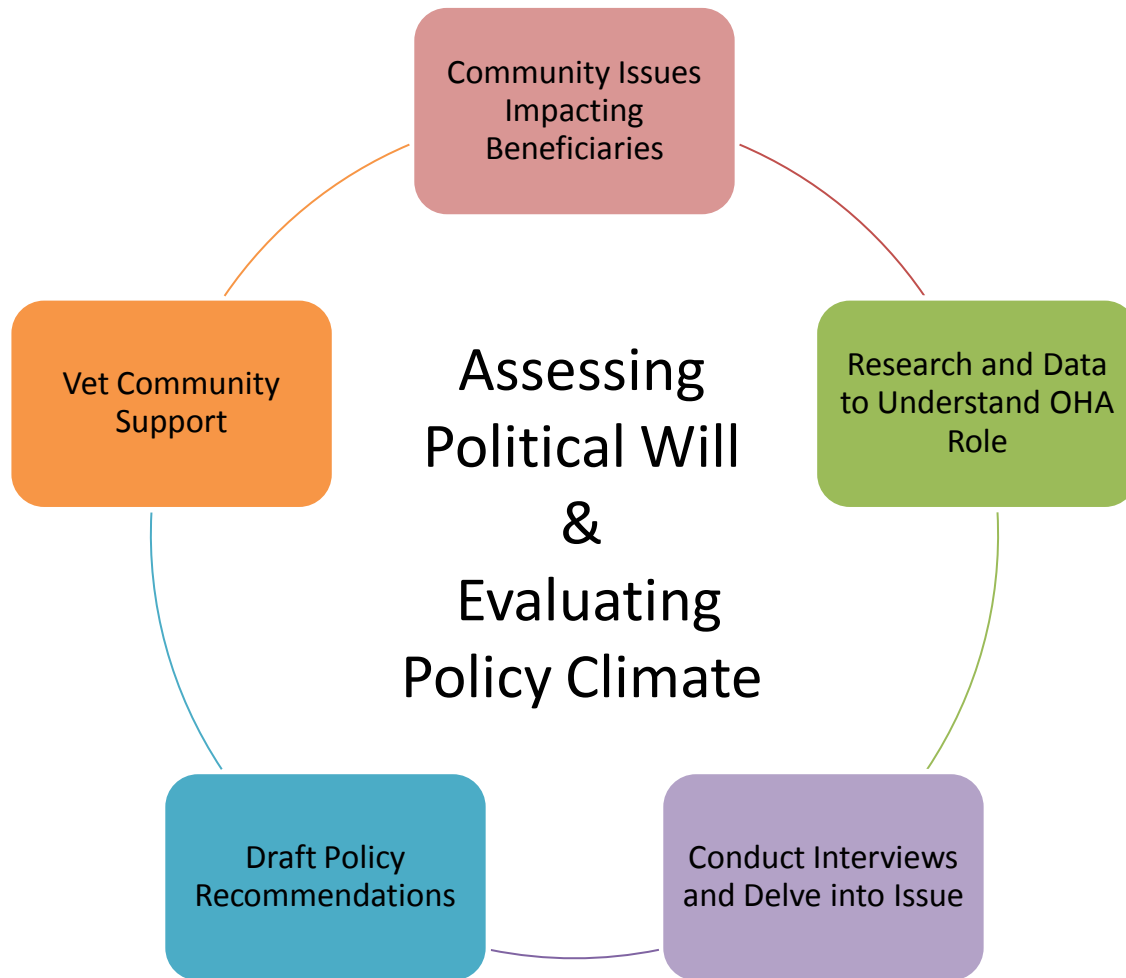
Source: McGregor, D., Morelli, P. T., Matsuoka, J. K., Rodenhurst, R., Kong, N., Spencer, M.S. (2003). Pacific Health Dialog. An Ecological Model of Native Hawaiian Well-being, 10(2), 106-28.

## ROLE OF ADVOCACY AT OHA

OHA's advocacy role is to effectively identify, assess, and monitor internal and external policy that may impact Native Hawaiian health and well-being.



## INTEGRATING HEALTH POLICY



Policy Recommendations  
Can Include:

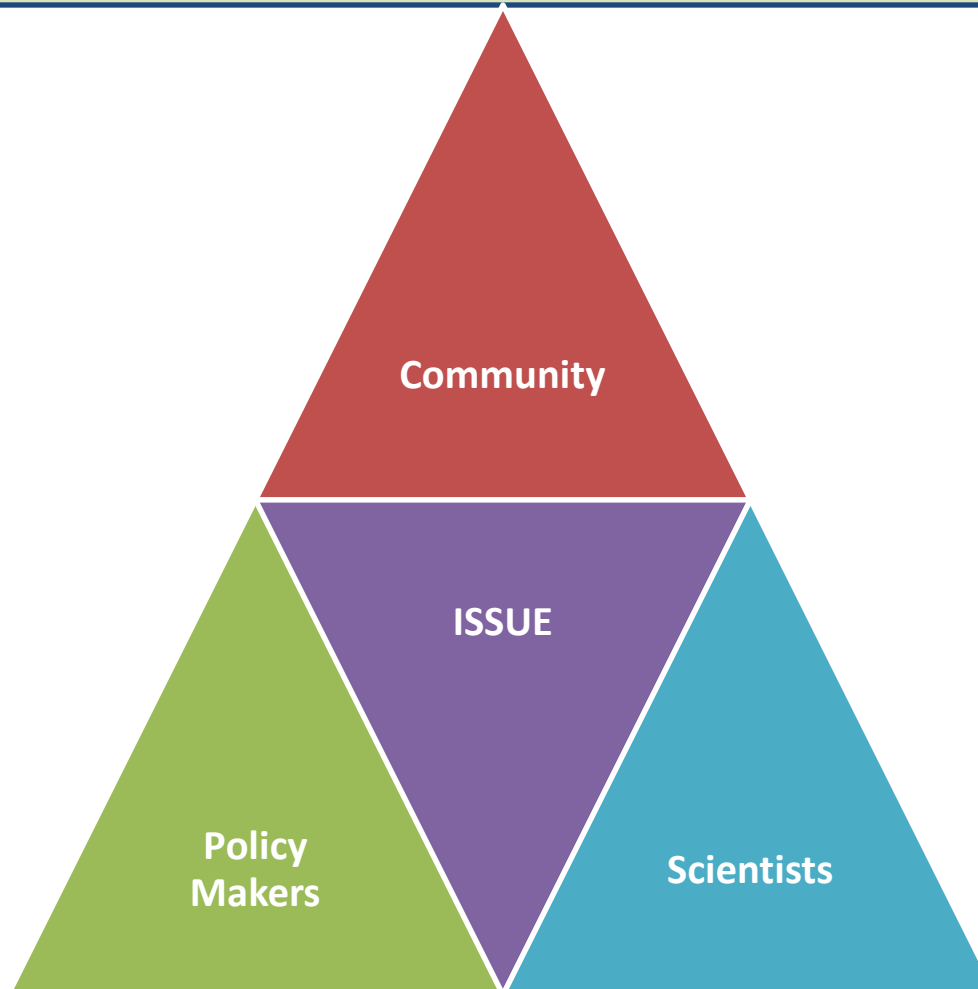
Introducing new  
legislation

Amending existing  
statutes

Resolutions for task  
forces and working  
groups

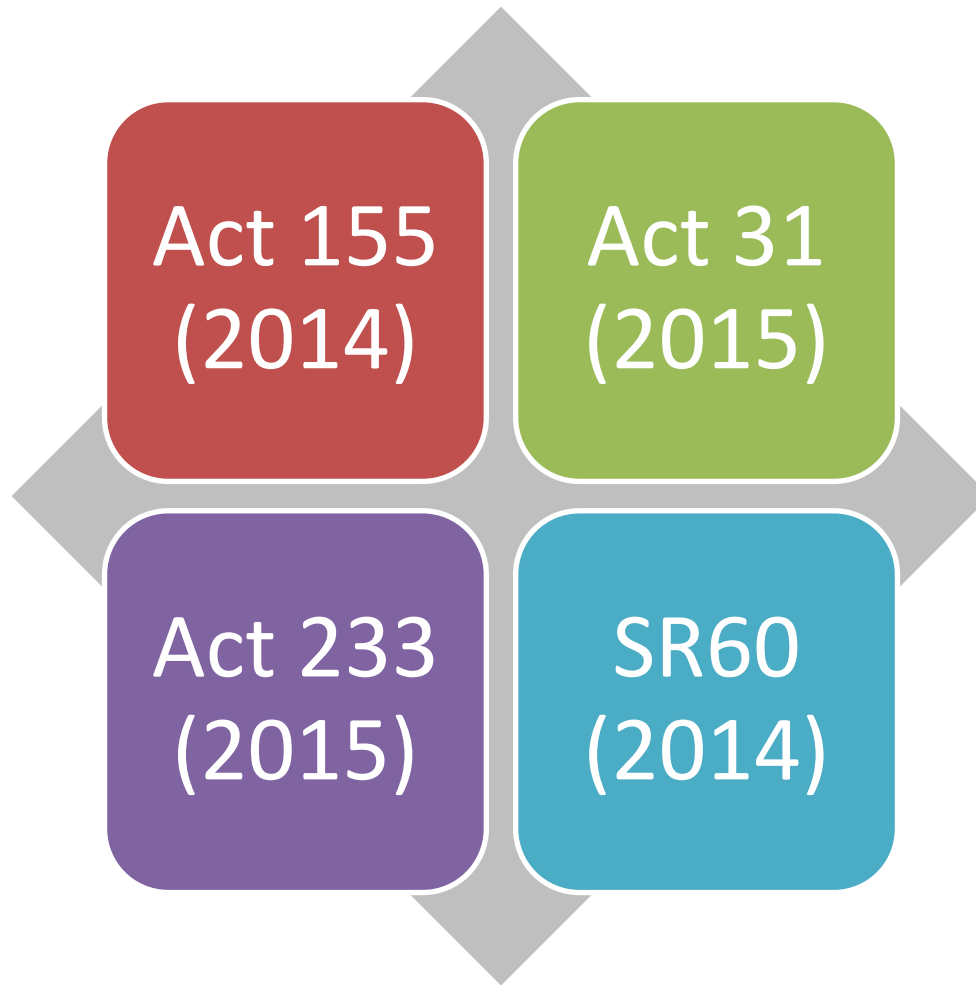
Include or exclude  
appropriation of general  
funds

**TRIANGULATING HEALTH POLICY: STRATEGY CONSIDERATIONS**





APPLYING THE HEALTH POLICY TOOLBOX





# Health Policy Workshop

Please group by 3-4 people

## SCENARIO

### **An organization is asking the Hawai'i State Legislature for general funds for a state-wide project start-up:**

This organization is seeking reimbursement from private insurance companies and Medicaid for behavioral health treatment utilizing indigenous connection to the 'āina (land and water). Adolescent Kānaka Maoli (Native Hawaiian) participants in this program have been previously diagnosed with depression for at least 12 consecutive months. These teenagers are currently non-compliant with their treatment plan (includes not taking medication, refusal to attend group therapy, no family involvement, etc.). Preliminary success has been observed from a community workshop day.

## ROLES

Within small groups you will be assigned a key role to play and discuss the scenario prompt:

**Organizational leaders:**  
The what matters to them



*These folks will review the proposal to approve the maintenance funds through reimbursement.*

**Government officials:**  
The who matters to them



*These folks will review the proposal to approve the start-up general funds.*

**Community experts:**  
The how matters to them



*These folks will scope the project with health care professionals as a pilot proposal. They possess indigenous expertise about cultural and land-based practices.*

**Health care professionals:**  
The why matters to them



*These folks will scope the project with community experts as a pilot proposal. They have specific knowledge about depression and non-compliance.*

**Note: These activities and roles are meant to illustrate the paradigm extremes and do not represent our idea of collaborative balance.**

## ACTIVITY

1. Discuss the pilot program from your role perspective
2. Present evidence to stakeholders
3. Ask questions of stakeholders
4. Make a final decision to
  - a) approve b) deny c) defer
5. Share final recommendation to the large group in **15 mins**

## OPEN DISCUSSION & DEBRIEF

**What is the evidence you need to know to make a decision to approve/deny/defer the pilot program request?**

**Who was actually involved in the decision to approve/deny/defer the request?**

**What is the final recommendation from the stakeholders? How did you get there?**

**Did everyone in the group get a vote?  
Did everyone in the group offer expert testimony?**

**What are the gaps?  
What is missing?  
Who else should have been there?**

**What are the potential and real outcomes of this pilot program?**

**OPEN DISCUSSION & DEBRIEF**





## OPEN DISCUSSION



### Pros

- Are there other examples you can see this being helpful with? Why?



### Cons

- Are there issues you would not want to conduct this process with? Why?



COMMUNITY-BASED POLICY PROCESS

Community

Research

Practice

Program

Policy

# NĪNAU: QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Office of Hawaiian Affairs

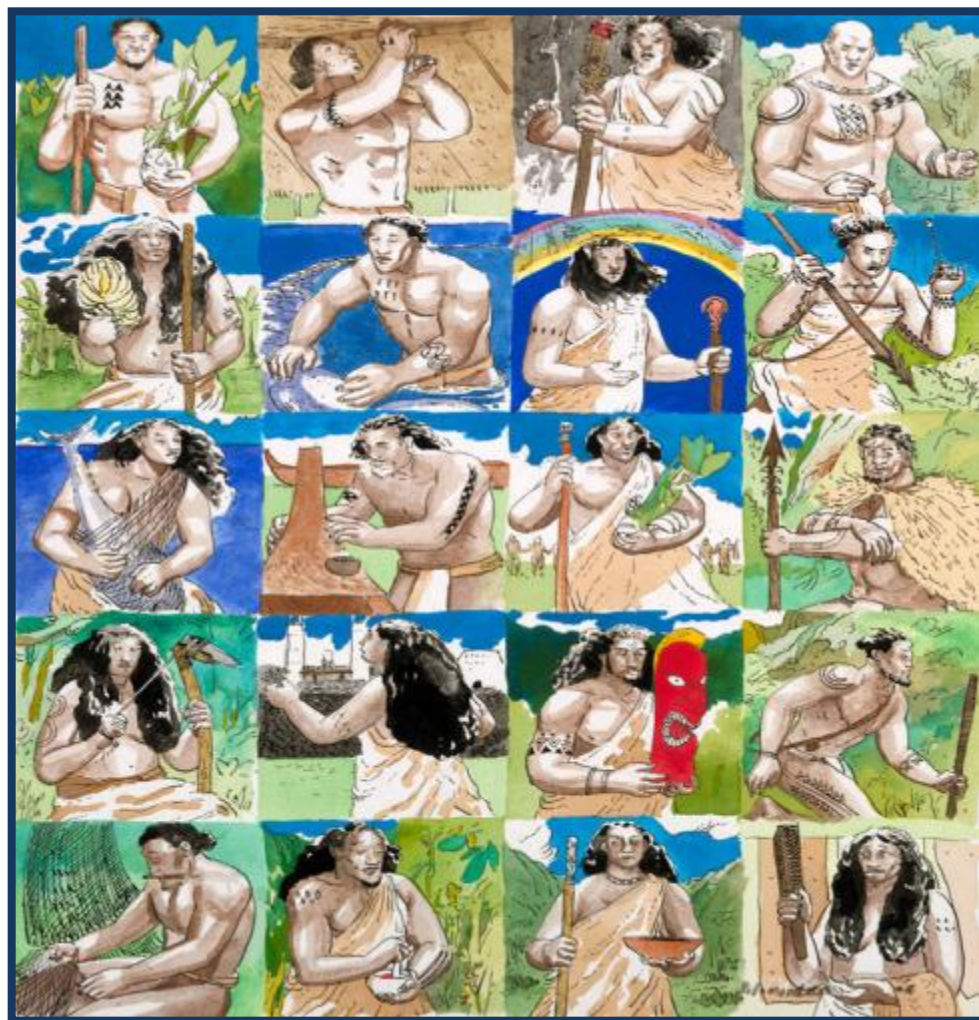


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*Share your feedback, pass on your success stories, and ask more questions of us. We would love to hear from you!*