



COUNCILMEMBER ANDRIA TUPOLA

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April 26, 2021

The Honorable Ed Case
2210 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Letter of Support for the Institute for Native Pacific Education and Culture (INPEACE)

Dear Congressman Case,

Mahalo for the tremendous work you are doing at Washington D.C. My office receives your updates and we are very pleased with your accomplishments.

As the District 1 Honolulu City Councilwoman representing 'Ēwa Beach, Kapolei, Nānākuli, Wai'anae, I can attest to the unique needs of diverse populations that live along O'ahu's leeward coast. As such, I wish to voice my strong support for the Institute for Native Pacific Education and Culture (INPEACE) in their application for funding to the Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government.

Funding will allow for small business entrepreneurs to thrive in a post-COVID-19 environment as they obtain training in billing software, payroll, inventory, and other requisite technical skills through INPEACE's Community Outreach Lab. Currently, there is a critical and unmet need to build small businesses in Hawai'i's rural communities.

INPEACE was established in 1994, with a mission to improve the quality of life for Native Hawaiians by utilizing a holistic community approach. Their services are made available in distressed communities across Hawai'i where poverty and unemployment have a significant impact on quality-of-life outcomes. Here are some of INPEACE's programs:

- **Ho'āla** is an early childhood education program that offers services like preschool enrollment to tuition subsidy applications.
- **Hi'ilei** is for new and soon-to-be parents, providing in-home visits focused on crucial childhood development education.
- **Keiki Steps** is a parent participation preschool for families to attend early childhood education programs alongside their keiki.
- **Kupu Ola** is a culture-based education program meant to engage and motivate students through a hands-on, outdoor classroom setting.
- **Kūlia & Kalama Education Academy** utilizes a teacher development model to empower Native Hawaiian community members to become teachers in their home communities.

- **Ho'oulu Waiwai** helps to grow wealth for families by strengthening their financial capability, achieving their goals through financial literacy workshops, one-on-one coaching, and an incentivized savings plan.
- **Ho'oulu Waiwai** (business development) aims to provide comprehensive guidance and training to support families with young children in starting their own small businesses.

Thus INPEACE offers comprehensive programs addressing very specific needs in the community. More information on these programs can be found on INPEACE's website at www.inpeace.org.

I believe that INPEACE is capable of implementing their proposed project as they have been the recipient of numerous awards and large grants since 2012. I also hope to collaborate with INPEACE and support their goals within my district.

I am hopeful that you will consider their application and we look forward to successful partnership to ensure our community is economically developed and strengthened.

Respectfully ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Tupola". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter "A" being particularly large and stylized.

Andria Tupola
Honolulu City Councilmember
District 1 'Ēwa Beach, Kapolei, Nānākuli, Wai'anae