

GENERAL INFORMATION SHEET

WHAT... a gathering to explore, develop and implement diverse and innovative actions which solve Hawai`i's community food insecurity. The conference will explore the essential question:

How do communities, with rural roots and values, build thriving and sustainable communities that promote positive social change?

NOT YOUR USUAL CONFERENCE... we want to push ourselves to “think outside the box”! This conference will offer unique learning opportunities...

- Youth leadership will be at the core of the gathering -- a youth vision will inspire conference participants and provide a foundation on which to build upon.
- `Aina-based, hands-on workshops, with experts in a variety of fields, will connect and network participants, so that we explore diverse ways of thinking and doing.
- Plenary sessions will deepen our conversations whereby participants are encouraged to share their stories, their ideas, their questions, and their solutions.
- Lunch and break periods will provide numerous opportunities for fun and networking -- on Saturday the events will conclude with a special pa'ina and imu (celebration).
- The conference will be staged at a certified organic farm – food will come from MA`O and other local farms (how many conferences have you attended where you knew where the food came from!).
- Participants will be challenged to make commitments, develop partnerships, and plan actions to formulate innovative solutions to build a local community food security movement.

PRE-CONFERENCE... two pre-conference sessions are available on Thursday May 19th. For youth, the Mala `Ai `Opio Youth Leadership Team, the Hawaii Alliance for CBED and young people from Boston's The Food Project will host a leadership development training with unique activities, visioning, and action planning. The session will provide the grounding for the main conference so that young people

involved in the movement can lead and learn. For the young at heart (the adults!), a bus tour field trip of the Wai`anae Coast will be available and will highlight our historic and cultural treasures, those especially pertinent to community food security.

WHERE...the conference will be staged at MA`O Organic Farm, in the ahupua`a of Lualualei in the beautiful moku of Wai`anae, `Oahu from May 19th to May 21st 2005. Participants are advised to wear casual comfortable clothing (and shoes to work in!).

COST – REGISTRATION...Adult registration is \$125 for the two-day conference, youth and Kupuna \$75. This includes meals five meals (breakfast and lunch on Friday; breakfast, lunch and dinner on Saturday). Youth cost also covers attendance at the pre-conference session, which is limited to 50 youth. Space is limited; we encourage youth groups to send 2 of their most experienced/committed young people. Please call and/or e-mail the farm for registration packets. Travel fund scholarships for neighbor island youth leaders is available, please contact us as soon as possible.

ACCOMMODATIONS...limited peaceful accommodations will be available at the Pu`u Kahea Conference Center right here in Wai`anae town. Please call and/or e-mail the farm before April 29th for availability. Makaha Resort has kama`aina rates, they can be reached at independently at 695-0544, or <http://www.makaharesort.com/us/>.

YOUR HOSTS – ORGANIZERS...the gathering is co-hosted by the Wai`anae Community Re-Development Corp (MA`O); Leeward Community College; Hawai`i Alliance for Community-Based Economic Development; UH CTAHR; Maui Land and Pineapple; Wai`anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center; and 3-Point Consulting. Major funding for the conference comes from the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development.

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