



Local Antiques & Stuff represents a lifelong dream brought to reality. Owners, Patricia and Harris Kaneshiro, came to the Hawai'i SBDC with an incredible inventory of antiques and vintage items collected over 40 years. Their collection included hundreds of Japanese wooden dolls, known as Kokeshi, valuable glass sea floats and vintage aloha shirts. They had Civil War-era swords and army surplus materials, Koa and Mahogany furniture and even a few fully restored vintage gas pumps. An incredibly skilled craftsman and welder, Harris restored many of these items by hand and despite many offers, he had never sold a single piece.

After much contemplation, Pat and Harris finally decided to pursue their dream of opening an antique shop to sell off their entire inventory of antiques and collectibles.

While they were willing to self-finance the endeavor and were not interested in outside funding, they came to the Hawai'i SBDC for guidance in how to go about starting their business. We were there to help them each step of the way from incorporation to accounting, from marketing to setting up their point of sale system.

Not interested in selling their items online, the owner's hearts were set on finding a physical location that would become a place for community members to explore and appreciate these precious vintage treasures. Local Antiques secured a prime commercial space along a main thoroughfare in Downtown Hilo, providing them great visibility and regular foot traffic. Since the store opened in July 2015, the business has seen steady sales and is off to a great start.

Never meant for high growth, Local Antiques provides its owners with immense satisfaction in knowing that every item sold will carry on the legacy of hand selecting, restoring, and appreciating the forgotten treasures in life.

