

Hawai'i Small Business Development Center O'ahu Center Newsletter

Precious GEMS: Making Clean Energy Accessible to Hawaii's Small Businesses



The Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority's ("HGIA") Green Energy Market Securitization ("GEMS") Program leverages public-private capital to deploy clean energy infrastructure that will contribute towards the State of Hawaii's statutory 100% renewable energy goals by 2045, while helping ratepayers lower their energy costs.

To date, HGIA has facilitated over \$37.0 million of commercial solar PV projects for multi-family projects, non-profits and small businesses in the Hawaiian Electric Companies' service territory.

On June 1, 2018, HGIA launched an innovative financing program to make it even easier for small businesses to benefit from green energy technologies. The Green Energy Money Saver (GEM\$) On-Bill Program enables small businesses to finance solar PV systems and commercial energy efficiency retrofits.


Dear Andra,

Welcome to the 2018 Third Quarter newsletter of the Hawai'i Small Business Development Center, O'ahu office. In this edition, take a look at how small businesses can participate in renewable energy. Read the latest news on Hawai'i PTAC; how the Hawai'i SBDC is working with client Ōlena by Chef Ron Simon; and check out the 2018 Small Business Fair. See the Calendar section for upcoming business events.



I hope you enjoy this issue, and welcome your comments or questions. [Like us on Facebook](#), recommend us on [Yelp!](#), see our [new YouTube channel](#), and connect with us on [LinkedIn](#).

Joseph Burns
O'ahu Center Director

 [Have you ever been interested in owning a franchise business? Chick-fil-A is having a free information session in Honolulu on August 21, 2018 - click here to reserve your seat.](#)

The PTAC Report



Following is the Hawai'i PTAC updated 2018 calendar of free events:

- 08/22/18: Government Contracting 101, Honolulu
- 09/13/18: Kaua'i General Contractor's Association, Lehue

The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for FY2019, which is expected to pass both the House and Senate, contains a policy requirement for the demonstration of advanced manufacturing. Each service will be required to have at least one activity demonstrating advanced manufacturing at a depot-level maintenance or arsenal facility, and a workforce development component is encouraged. The services may use grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other partnership structures will be permitted. Further information to be announced.

[Register here for free assistance with government contracting](#)

Success Story: Ōlena by Chef Ron Simon

On August 7, 2017 [Ōlena by Chef Ron Simon](#) opened for business in the JABSOM Kaka'ako-Café Wailoa. Started by husband and wife team, Ron and Rose Simon. Ōlena's menu features fresh farm to table local favorite entrees such as Aburgae with Vegetable Saimin, Chicken-ginger Jook, Roasted Salmon & Tofu Salad, and their refreshing signature





A unique feature available exclusively for GEM\$ is that installations are conveniently financed through a recurring charge on the ratepayer's electric utility bill. This payment mechanism allows HGIA to provide financing to owner-user businesses, as well as small businesses that lease their spaces.

To find out more about GEM\$ and the other clean energy financing programs available, contact HGIA today:

(808) 587-3868

email:

dbedt.gems@hawaii.gov

Check out our website at:

<http://gems.hawaii.gov/>

Contact Us

[About Us](#)

[Business Events Calendar](#)

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Advisors to Hawaii's Business

"Drive the Economic Sustainability of Hawai'i by Assisting Businesses to Form, Grow and Thrive"



Filipino lemonade specially crafted by talented Chef Ron.

In 2015, Rose first attended Hawai'i SBDC's "How to Start a Business" workshop and then met with business advisor Lori Hiramatsu. From the start she had the energy and drive to learn as much as possible about operating a food business. Over the next two years Rose crafted the business plan and projections, met with her Hawai'i SBDC advisor and went to look at several site options. Each time she would circle back to Lori and discuss the cost, timeline, projections, location, etc. Then, in 2017, all her hard work paid off. Rose continues to stay in close contact with Lori, who provides ongoing counseling.

More than 200 Attend 2018 Small Business Fair at Honolulu Community College



The annual Hawai'i Small Business Fair was held at Honolulu Community College on August 4, 2018. Some 200 people rose early on a Saturday morning to attend FREE classes for those planning to start a business, as well as people with existing businesses. Classes included "Financial Statement Basics", "Social Media Marketing" and "General Excise Tax De-Mystified", among many others.

Exhibitors included the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT), the US Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Hawai'i Small Business Development Center (SBDC) among some 30 other government and non-profit business-oriented organizations.

The next Hawai'i Small Business Fair will be held at Leeward Community College in 2019, date to be announced.

Disaster Recovery Guide Now Available



A comprehensive Disaster Recovery Guide is now available from the Hawai'i SBDC. It is focused on businesses that have been affected by a natural disaster such as the recent flooding on Kaua'i and O'ahu, and the volcanic eruption on the Big Island. Businesses can go through the Guide themselves, but to realize the most value, we recommend that business owners and

senior managers team up with their SBDC advisor to systematically work through the recovery guide.

Disaster recovery steps include making personal and business assessments that lead to a determination if the business should re-open or not. If the conclusion is not to re-open, then a closing checklist is recommended. If the business will re-open, then there are several subsequent steps, such as creating the recovery action plan, addressing the inevitable funding needs, and dealing with employees, vendors and customers. The Guide includes worksheets which will make the effort more efficient.

To download a free copy of the Guide, [click here](#).

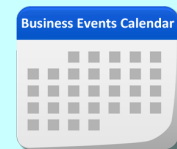
or contact our office: (808) 945-1430; joseph.burns@hisbdc.org

Calendar - Sign Up Now!

[08/28/18: Essentials of Entrepreneurship](#)

[09/11/18: Quad Chambers: Consumer Products Workshop](#)

[09/20/18: Research and Development Tax Credits for Businesses Workshop](#)



In the Media



[How to Find a Franchise that Fits](#)

[Business Owner Optimism is at Highest Since 2004](#)

[11 Secrets of Small Business Success](#)



Quote of the Quarter

"By working faithfully eight hours a day you may eventually get to be boss and work twelve hours a day."

-Robert Frost



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U.S. Small Business
Administration



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